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OCTOBER
no. 4

LAW
AND ORDER
IN THE
WILD
WEST

LEV GLEASON, PUBLISHER - CHARLES BIRO AND BOB WOOD, EDITORS

ALL
TRUE
WILD WEST
STORIES

A
FULL-SIZE
52 page
MAG!

AN' CHARLIE'S
HAD JUST ENOUGH
DRINKS TO MAKE
GOOD HIS
THREAT!

HE SURE
IS SORE AT
DOC—HE SAID
HE'D GET HIM
THE NEXT TIME
HE LAID EYES
OH HIM!

THERE GOES
CHARLIE STORM!
I WOULDN'T WANNA
BE IN DOC HOLLIDAY'S
SHOES FOR NO
MONEY!

WATCH YOUR
STEP, DOC—
CHARLIE STORM
JUST CAME IN,
AN' I THINK
HE'S LOOKIN'
FOR YOU!

IT'S A FINE SALOON YOU'RE
RUNNIN' HERE, HARRY, LETTIN'
FANCY TALKIN' DUDES COME IN
TO FLEECE
YOUR HONEST
CUSTOMERS!

LET ME
HAVE TWO
CARDS!

YOU'LL HAVE TO DEAL
'EM TO YOURSELF, DOC.
I GOTTA WATER
MY HORSE!

I'M TALKIN' ABOUT
YOU, FANCY TIE—
C'MON OUTSIDE! YOU
AN' ME IS GONNA
SHOOT IT OUT!

OH, SO YOU'RE HARD
O' HEARIN'—OR ARE YA
JUST PLAIN YELLER?
ON SECOND THOUGHT—
STAY WHERE
YOU ARE!

CRACK!

CRACK!

LEV GLEASON
PUBLICATIONS

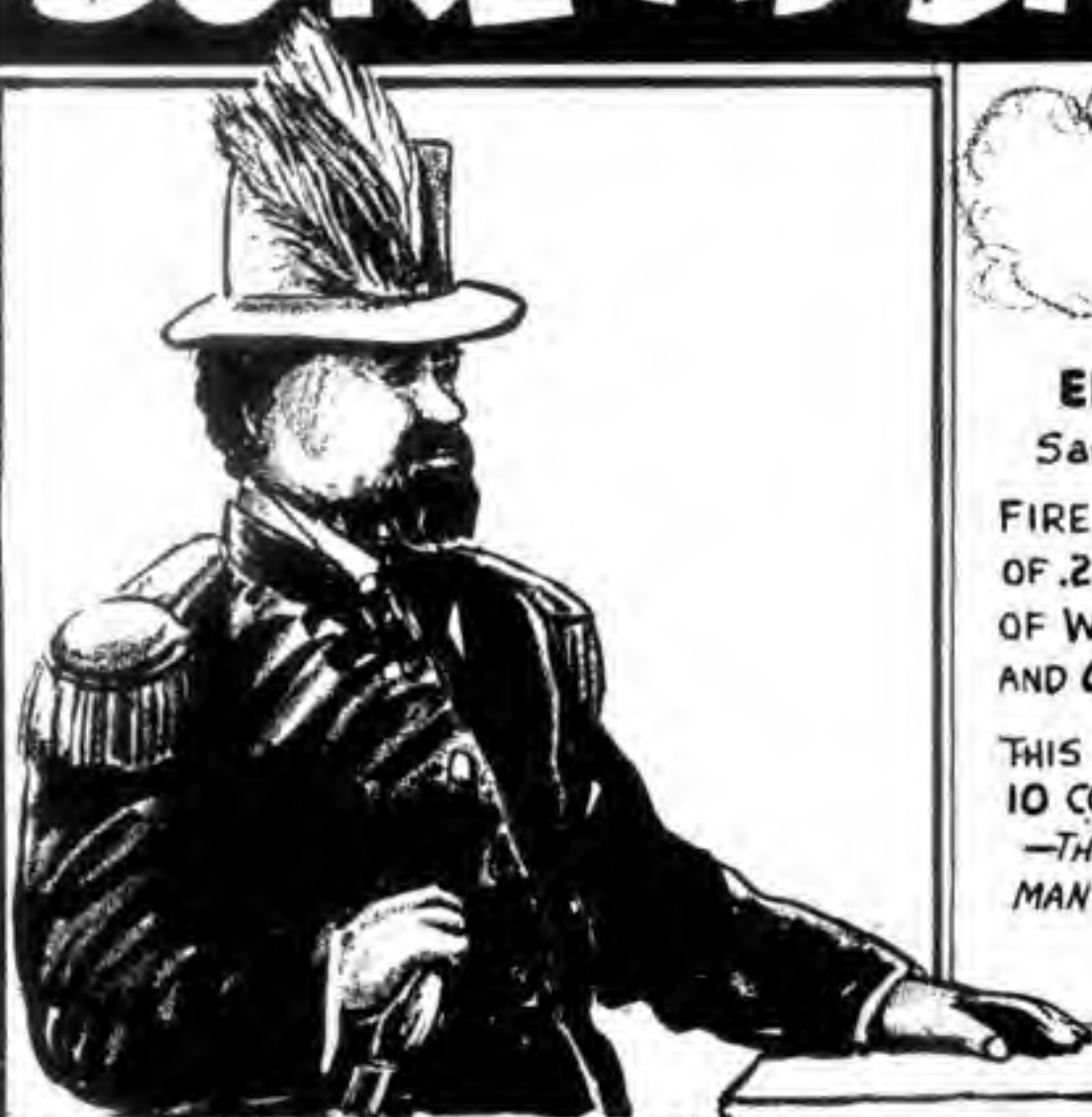
CHARLES
BIRO

**WEB COMIC
UNIVERSE.COM**

OBEY THE LAW

SURE AS SHOOTIN'

by
**CLAUDE
MOORE**



EMPEROR OF THE UNITED STATES! AND PROTECTOR OF MEXICO

JOSHUA NORTON - San Francisco - 1853
PROCLAIMED HIMSELF AN EMPEROR AND LIVED LIKE ONE
FOR 27 YEARS - HE HAD HIS OWN PRIVATELY PRINTED MONEY
AND ACTED WITH THE DIGNITY OF HIS POSITION - PEOPLE
TRIED TO CARRY OUT HIS COMMANDS WHEREVER POSSIBLE!

NO ONE TOOK HIM
SERIOUSLY FOR HE WAS
THE VICTIM OF A DELUSION
CAUSED BY THE SHOCK
OF LOSING \$250,000
IN A POOR BUSINESS
INVESTMENT

C.H. MOORE 421



LILLIAN SMITH

WORKED IN
BUFFALO BILL'S
WILD WEST SHOW

SHE WAS A
SHARPSHOOTER
AND ONLY 15 YEARS OLD
- COULD HIT A PLATE
TOSSED IN THE AIR
30 TIMES IN 15 SECONDS

ED MCGIFFERD -

San Antonio, Texas

FIRE 72,500 ROUNDS
OF .22 AMMUNITION AT 2½ BLOCKS
OF WOOD TOSSED IN THE AIR
AND ONLY MISSED 9 TIMES!

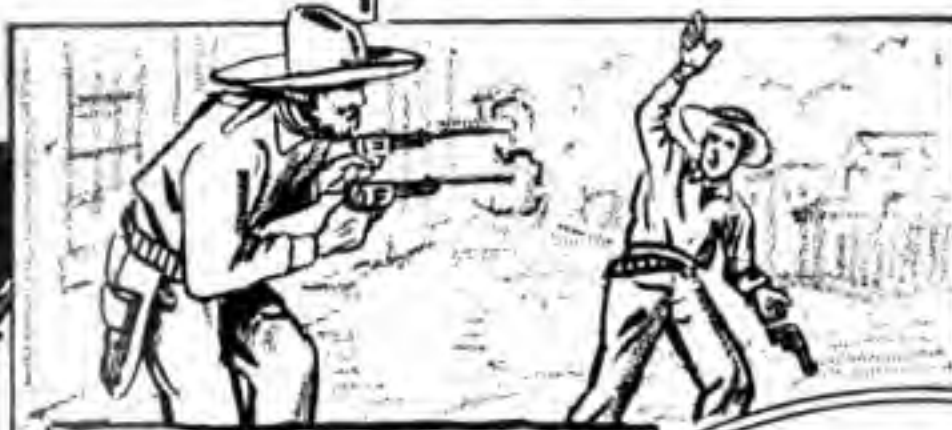
THIS REMARKABLE FEAT TOOK HIM
10 CONSECUTIVE DAYS TO COMPLETE
- THE BLOCKS WERE THROWN BY A
MAN STANDING 25 FEET AWAY

1908



*UTAH CHARLEY - A NOTORIOUS TRAIN ROBBER -
HAD HIMSELF PACKED IN A COFFIN AND SHIPPED ON
A RAILWAY EXPRESS CAR OF THE UNION PACIFIC WHICH
WAS CARRYING \$35,000 IN GOLD! OTHERS HAD
TRIED THE TRICK - JUMPED OUT OF THE COFFIN WHEN
THE TRAIN STARTED MOVING AND PULLED A DARING
HOLD-UP - BUT UTAH CHARLEY NEVER HAD A CHANCE
TO GET OUT OF THE COFFIN HE STEPPED INTO!
THE BAGGAGE CLERK WAS SUSPICIOUS, AND WHEN

THE LID OF THE COFFIN
OPENED, UTAH WAS
SHOT THRU THE HEAD
AND REALLY NEEDED
THE COFFIN!



WILD BILL HICKOCK KILLED
HIS BEST FRIEND, MIKE
WILLIAMS, ACCIDENTALLY,
WHEN HE RAN UP
BEHIND HICKOCK
UNEXPECTEDLY!



JAMES MARSHALL

FOUND A FEW GOLD NUGGETS
IN THE RIVER WHILE BUILDING A SAW MILL FOR JOHN SUTTER.
THIS WAS THE CAUSE AND BEGINNING OF THE CALIFORNIA
GOLD RUSH OF 1849, WHEN HUNDREDS OF PROSPECTORS
FOUND FORTUNES - BUT THE MAN WHO DISCOVERED THIS
GOLD WAS PUSHED ASIDE AND NEVER MADE A FORTUNE
- IN FACT HE DIED PENNILESS AND ALONE!

OBEY THE LAW

THE RENO BROTHERS

THE FOUR HORSEMEN OF HORROR!



● SUPERSTITION
● GREED

● ROBBERY
● MURDER



NOW I'LL FLIP FOR THE THIRD MESSENGER—HEADS HE CROAKS, TAILS HE LIVES! IF IT LANDS AN' STANDS ON ITS EDGE, BUD, YOU GET THE BENEFIT OF THE DOUBT!

DON'T LET IT WORRY YOU, BUD—THERE AIN'T A SLIM CHANCE IN THAT SILVER DOLLAR—IT'S A FREAK ONE—IT'S GOT TWO HEADS!

IN CONSIDERATION OF INNOCENT PEOPLE INVOLVED AND RELATIVES OF OTHERS, THE NAMES OF SOME CHARACTERS DEPICTED IN THIS TRUE MAGAZINE ARE FICTITIOUS. the editors



YES, JUST LIKE THE RENO BROTHERS—I WAS BORN WRONG—A FREAK AMONG MY KIND, AS THEY WERE MENTAL FREAKS AMONG THEIR KIND! ONLY ONE COIN IN A MILLION IS MINTED WITH TWO HEADS! ONLY ONE FAMILY IN A MILLION COULD PRODUCE FOUR SUCH BLACK-HEARTED VILLAINS! ONLY FATE COULD BRING TWO SUCH OUTCASTS TOGETHER—ME, WHOSE PROPER DESTINY SHOULD HAVE BEEN DESTRUCTION IN THE MELTING POTS OF THE GOVERNMENT REFINERY, AND THE RENO BROTHERS! BEFORE OUR COMMON DESTINY HAD RUN ITS TERRIBLE COURSE, MANY A GOOD MAN DIED WITH CURSES ON HIS LIPS FOR ME, AS WELL AS MY MASTERS! BUT CURSES COULDN'T STOP THESE FOUR HORSEMEN OF HORROR FROM WRITING NEW CHAPTERS OF WICKEDNESS INTO THE LURID HISTORY OF THE WILD WEST!

OBEY THE LAW

YOU DON'T SEE MANY OF MY BREED AROUND TODAY..ONCE IN A WHILE SOMEBODY TURNS UP SOME WESTERN SOIL, AND THERE I AM, AFTER BEING LOST FOR SEVENTY YEARS! MOST OF THE TIME YOU'LL FIND ME IN COIN COLLECTIONS, BECAUSE THE GOVERNMENT RECALLED MY SERIES MANY YEARS AGO! I, IN PARTICULAR, SHOULD HAVE BEEN RE-MELTED THE DAY I WAS STRUCK AND I'LL TELL YOU WHY...

..SEE THAT STAMPING MACHINE? IT PUNCHES OUT 100 COINS A MINUTE..ALL ALIKE-MISS LIBERTY ON ONE SIDE WITH A CAP ON HER HEAD AND "E PLURIBUS UNUM" OVER THE CAP; ON THE OTHER SIDE, AN EAGLE WITH OLIVE BRANCHES IN ITS RIGHT CLAW AND THREE ARROWS IN ITS LEFT CLAW! UNDER THE EAGLE IS STAMPED "ONE DOLLAR"; OVER THE EAGLE, "IN GOD WE TRUST"! MILLIONS OF COINS CAME OUT LIKE THAT, BUT I HAD TO BE DIFFERENT...

FATE TOOK THAT "E PLURIBUS UNUM" LINE SERIOUSLY! I BECAME ONE OUT OF MANY, BECAUSE THE SPLIT SECOND THE UPPER DIE ON THE MACHINE CAME DOWN ON MY BLANK UPPER SIDE, SOME PRANK OF FATE TURNED ME UP-SIDE DOWN, AND THE BOTTOM DIE NEVER TOUCHED ME! "IN GOD WE TRUST" AND THE SYMBOLIC EAGLE GRACED A MILLION SIDES..BUT NOT MINE, NOR DID ANYBODY NOTICE THE MISTAKE - OUT INTO THE WORLD I WENT, A FREAK SILVER DOLLAR...



..MINTED IN 1865, I CHANGED HANDS A HUNDRED TIMES A MONTH WITHOUT BEING NOTICED FOR WHAT I WAS! THE WEST SERVED THE THINGS I BOUGHT, THE MEN I BELONGED TO... AND WOMEN...



..I MOVED FROM BANK TO RESTAURANT, TO SALOON, AND TO GROCERY STORE! I MOVED FROM STATE TO STATE-TOWN TO TOWN! IN THE FALL OF 1865, I LANDED IN SEYMOUR, INDIANA! THE DEVIL HIMSELF COULDN'T HAVE ARRANGED A MORE TRAGIC MEETING WITH MY NEW OWNER...



WHAT DO YOU THINK? HE'S GONE TO THE CLEANERS, BUT HE'S STILL GOT HARD ROCKS ON HIS FINGERS AND A STICKPIN WORTH PLENTY!

I SAY HE'S WORTH THE BOOSTIN! I DON'T SEE ANYTHING ELSE THAT'S BETTER!

JUST A MINUTE, MISTER, YOU LEFT MIKE HARRIS' WITH SOMETHIN' THAT DON'T BELONG TO YOU!

I-I DON'T UNDERSTAND! THEM RINGS ON YOUR FINGERS AN' THAT SPARKLER IN YOUR TIE... THEY DON'T BELONG TO YOU! YOU GYPED THEM FROM US, YOU CROOK!

THERE'S SOME MISTAKE, I'VE HAD THESE GEMS FOR YEARS! I'VE NEVER STOLEN ANYTHING! I GAMBLE A LITTLE, BUT ONLY FOR AMUSEMENT!

WHO ASKED FOR YOUR LIFE HISTORY? GET INTO THAT DOORWAY, MISTER, YOU'RE GIVIN' BACK WHAT YOU STOLE..YOU CAN'T SMOOTH-TALK US OUT OF OUR PROPERTY!

OBEY THE LAW



YOU'RE ALL THIEVES! THIS IS NOTHIN' BUT BOLD-FACED ROBBERY!

I WOULDN'T SAY THAT, MISTER! HMM... THIS AIN'T AS BIG A ROCK AS I THOUGHT!

BITE IT—MAYBE IT'S GLASS! MAYBE THE GUY'S A PHONY!



HE'S A PHONY, ALL RIGHT—THIS JUNK IS GLASS! SO YOU HAD IT FOR YEARS, EH? WELL KEEP IT, YOU PHONY!

YOU'RE TOO EASY ON THE GUY, JOHN! LOOK AT THE TROUBLE HE PUT US TO, FOLLOWIN' HIM OUT OF MIKE'S, PUSHIN' HIM IN HERE! HE CAN'T WASTE OUR TIME LIKE THAT! BESIDES, HE'S PUTTIN' UP TOO MUCH OF A FIGHT!



WHAT ARE YOU DOIN' THAT FOR, FRANK? THE GUY DIDN'T EVEN MOVE A MUSCLE!

HE LOOKS LIKE HE'S GOIN' TO! WE CAN'T BE TOO CAREFUL ABOUT PHONIES! THEY CAN PULL KNIVES OUT OF THEIR COLLARS, OR SLEEVES, AN' STUFF!

HEY, LOOK WHAT HE HAD ON HIM—I NEVER SEEN A SILVER DOLLAR LIKE THIS!



GIMME!

FOR PETE'S SAKE—CAN'T YOU ASK TO SEE IT?

NO, FRANK DON'T ASK NOBODY NOTHIN'! HE JUST GOES AHEAD AN' DOES WHAT HE PLEASES! YOU'D NEVER KNOW WE WERE HIS OWN BROTHERS! HE'S GOTTA BE THE WHOLE CHEESE—LIMBURGER CHEESE



I DON'T LIKE THAT, JOHN—NOT EVEN IN FUN! I DON'T ASK NO PERMISSION TO DO ANYTHIN'—NOT EVEN FOR SITTIN' YOUR NOISY-PUPPY THROAT!

J..JIM! BILL! TAKE THAT KNIFE AWAY FROM HIM!

THAT'S A HEADACHE! I'D RATHER TRY TAKIN' A SHEEP CARCASS FROM A MOUNTAIN LION—HE'D ONLY TURN ON US!



YOU'RE RIGHT—I WOULD! YOU GUYS HAVE GOT TO RESPECT YOUR OLDEST BROTHER! HMM...I DON'T SEE NOTHIN' QUEER ABOUT THIS SILVER PIECE!

THEN GIVE IT BACK! WE'LL ADD IT TO OUR TAKE AN' IT'LL GET SPLIT EVEN WITH THE REST OF OUR PROFITS!



WHAT PROFITS? A RABBIT'S FOOT, A FEW CENTS, AN' A PENKNIFE—THIS COIN'S MY SHARE! WAIT A MINUTE—I SEE WHAT'S FUNNY ABOUT IT NOW! MISS LIBERTY'S ON BOTH SIDES! THERE AIN'T NO EAGLE, AN' NO "IN GOD WE TRUST"! THIS IS MY KIND OF COIN! I DON'T TRUST NOBODY BUT MYSELF!

THAT AIN'T ALL, BIG SHOT! YOU DON'T THINK OF NOBODY BUT YOURSELF, EITHER!



FRANK AIN'T NO BROTHER! HE NEVER ACTED LIKE ONE! HE'D KILL US ALL FOR A DIME! LOOK AT THE WAY HE TREATED BILL OVER THAT TWO-HEADED COIN! I KNOW WHAT I'D LIKE TO DO TO A GUY LIKE THAT, BUT I CAN'T DO IT ALONE!

I'LL HELP YOU, JOHN! THE RAT'S SHOVED ME AROUND FOR THE LAST TIME! NOW LET'S US DO A BIT OF SHOVIN', EH, JIM?

YEAH, LET'S FIX HIM GOOD! WE'LL GANG UP ON HIM AT THE HOUSE!



AIN'T YOU GUYS SLEEPY YET? I NEED TOOTHPICKS TO KEEP MY LIDS UP!

THEN GO TO BED! MAYBE YOU'LL HAVE SOME SWEET DREAMS ABOUT YOUR TWO-HEADED GOIN!

SURE—DON'T WAIT UP FOR US! WE'RE GONNA PLAY ALL NIGHT!

OBEY THE LAW



OBEY THE LAW

HE'S TELLING ME! THIS MORNIN' I COULDN'T HIT A TREE TRUNK AT TEN FEET! SOMETHIN'S COME OVER ME... NOW I'VE GOT CONFIDENCE... MY HAND DON'T SHAKE NO MORE! MAYBE I'M GOOD!

SURE IT AIN'T ME THAT'S DOIN' THE SHOOTIN'! IT'S A GUY THAT LOOKS JUST LIKE ME... AN' BILL, HE'S ASKIN' YOU JUST ONCE... TO PICK THAT COIN OFF THE FLOOR!

S-SURE, FRANK...



YES, BILL, THAT SLUG COULD BE A HOLE IN YOUR FAT HEAD, INSTEAD OF A HOLE IN THE FLOOR!



YOUR EYE COULD GO OUT JUST LIKE THAT LAMP, JOHNNY BOY!



YOUR BELLY'D BE JUST AS SOFT A BED FOR THEM SLUGS AS THAT MATTRESS, JIM!



NOW, WHO WAS GOIN' TO GET WHO WITH KNIVES AN' BARE HANDS BEFORE THEY WERE DROPPED WITH LEAD? IT COULDN'T BE YOU GUYS, COULD IT?

W-WE MADE A MISTAKE, FRANK! WE NEVER KNEW YOU COULD SHOOT LIKE THAT!



OKAY, THEN, YOU MADE A MISTAKE! ONE MORE MISTAKE AND YOU'LL WIND UP IN A FUNERAL PARLOR! I'M HEAD MAN IN THIS FAMILY, AND I'LL STAND FOR NO NONSENSE!

OUR TROUBLE IS THAT WE'RE DOIN' TOO MUCH TALKIN', AN' NOT ENOUGH ACTIN' - TOO MUCH SWIGGIN' IN THE BINMILLS AN' BRAWLIN' IN THE STREETS AND NOTHIN' TO SHOW FOR IT!



LIKE TONIGHT, WE MURDER A GUY, SO THE TAKE - LEAVING OUT MY COIN, WAS A PENKNIFE AND A RABBIT'S FOOT! BEGGARS MAKE OUT BETTER THAN THAT! WE'RE WASTIN' TIME AND TALENT! THE STATE'S WIDE OPEN, WITH NO LAW TO SPEAK OF SOUTH OF INDIANAPOLIS! WE COULD DO WHAT WE PLEASED, TAKE WHAT WE PLEASED, AN' THE LAW COULD GO WHISTLE! WHY DON'T WE GO AFTER SOMETHING BIG?



WHAT DO YOU CALL BIG?

A TRAIN JOB! HEAR THAT TRAIN GO BY? THAT'S WHAT WE'VE BEEN PASSIN' UP! EVERY EXPRESS CARRIES ENOUGH CASH TO RETIRE ON, AN' IF YOU DON'T LIKE RETIRIN', YOU CAN LIVE LIKE A KING, HOLDING UP A CHOO-CHOO EVERY TWO MONTHS!



I'M GAME! HOW ABOUT YOU, JIM?

SURE COUNT ME IN!

WE RENOS START A NEW LIFE TOMORROW! A FAT, RICH LIFE! AN' NO MORE FAMILY ARGUMENTS!

THANKS TO THIS TWO-HEADED COIN! SORRY TO NICK YOU, MISS LIBERTY! YOU SURE BROUGHT ME LUCK!



LUCK IS ALL IT WAS - DUMB LUCK - THAT FRANK RENO EVER MANAGED TO HIT ME! BUT SUCCESS IS FUNNY - YOU GET AN ILLUSION OF YOURSELF AND YOU START LIVING UP TO IT SOMETIMES! YOU START THINKING THE ILLUSION AND YOU ARE ONE AND THE SAME THING! AT ANY RATE THE RENOS LOST NO IN TIME TRYING TO LIVE LIKE KINGS!

HERE COMES THE EASTBOUND! REMEMBER!... ONE MILE UP THE LINE WE START MOVIN' FORWARD...



WE'RE A MILE FROM SEYMOUR - LET'S GET TO WORK!

SIT DOWN, YOU FOOL! IF WE WALKED OUT TOGETHER IT WOULD BE LIKE PINNING A TRAIN-ROBBER SIGN ON US... GO OUT ONE BY ONE! WAIT ON THE PLATFORM NEAR THE LAST PASSENGER CAR!

I'LL GO FIRST! I'LL PRETEND I WANNA TAKE A SMOKE...



OBEY THE LAW



OBEDY THE LAW

WE'LL RUN THE TRAIN BACK TO SEYMOUR AND GET A POSSE AFTER THOSE DEVILS! THEY CAN'T GET FAR WITH THAT SAFE AND NO HORSES!

STOP WASTIN' YOUR SHOTS! YOU CAN'T HIT THEM WHILE THEY'RE BEHIND THAT IRON DOOR! DROP THE SAFE AND LET'S BEAT IT!



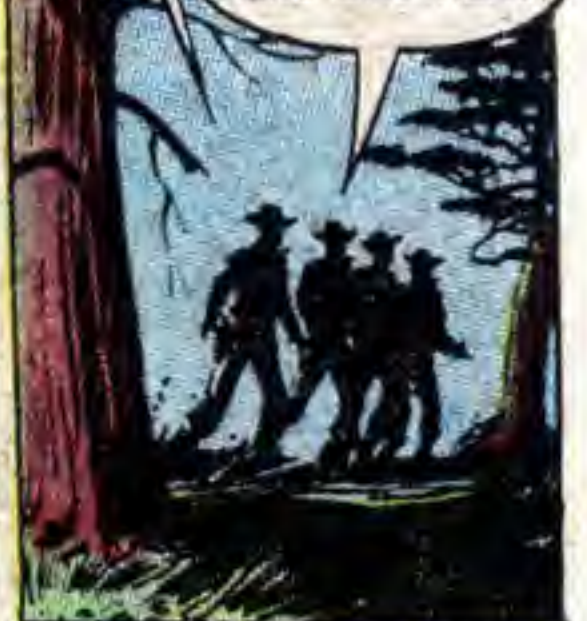
DROP THE SAFE? ARE YOU CRAZY, FRANK? THERE MIGHT BE A GOLD MINE INSIDE THIS SAFE!

WE'LL NEVER KNOW BECAUSE WE'RE LEAVING IT HERE! IT'LL TAKE THAT TRAIN TEN MINUTES TO GET BACK TO SEYMOUR AN' SCARE UP A POSSE! WE CAN'T CARRY THE BLASTED THING WITH US-IT'S TOO HEAVY, SO HERE IT STAYS! WE'VE GOT JUST ENOUGH TIME TO PULL OUR LEGS OUT OF THAT GRAVE THAT'S YAWNIN' FOR US, WITH EVERY MILE THAT TRAIN CLICKS OFF ON IT'S WAY BACK TO SEYMOUR!



WHERE'LL WE GO? BACK TO TOWN?

TOWN MEANS A NECKTIE PARTY! NO, BOYS, WE'RE THROUGH WITH SEYMOUR! WE'RE GOING OUT WEST WHERE NOBODY EVER HEARD OF THE RENO BROTHERS!



THE SHERIFF AND RAILWAY INSPECTORS NOTICED THAT THOUGH THE RENO BROTHERS BOUGHT TICKETS FOR THE EASTBOUND TRAIN FROM SEYMOUR, AND WERE SEEN BOARDING THE TRAIN, THEY WEREN'T ABOARD WHEN THE TRAIN GOT BACK TO SEYMOUR!

MY MASTER TREATED ME AS HIS LUCKY COIN! I WAS CONSULTED ON EVERY OCCASION! WHICH ROUTE TO TAKE, WHERE TO STOP, WHETHER IT WAS GOING TO RAIN... I KNEW ALL THE ANSWERS...

...BUT HEADS OR TAILS COULDN'T DECIDE EVERY CRISIS! THERE WERE A FEW PUZZLES MY MASTER HAD TO FIGURE OUT FOR HIMSELF! FOR INSTANCE, THOSE WANTED POSTERS THAT WERE FOLLOWING US EVERYWHERE!

THAT SEEMS TO CLINCH IT! THE RENO BROTHERS ANSWER TO THE PASSENGERS' DESCRIPTIONS!

THEY WERE A BAD LOT BEFORE THEY TURNED TO TRAIN ROBBERY! NOW THAT THEY KNOW THE GALLOWS ARE WAITING FOR THEM, THEY'LL BE WORSE THAN EVER! THEY'LL KILL WITHOUT MERCY!

I'D HAVE GIVEN ANYTHING FOR A CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP BUT TRANSFER SEEMED OUT OF THE QUESTION...

WHAT DOES MISS LIBERTY SAY?

LOOK AT HIM SITTING THERE FLIPPIN' THAT DARN COIN, WHILE WE GET SOAKIN' WET, WONDERIN' WHERE TO GO!

COME HERE, YOU MANGY BUMS! I FIGURED OUT OUR NEXT MOVE!



TAILS! WE GO TO MISSOURI!

...YES! I HAD A TAILS SIDE NOW-COURTESY OF THE BULLET NICK...



THERE'S NO USE HIDIN' ANYMORE! THE WHOLE COUNTRY KNOWS THE RENO BROTHERS! WE MAY AS WELL COME OUT AND TAKE OUR CHANCES! WE STILL HAVE \$13,000 FROM THAT SEYMOUR TRAIN ROBBERY! WE CAN BUY HORSES, GUNS, GRUB AND RAISE A GOOD-SIZED GANG WITH THE MONEY! WHAT DO YA SAY?

SO YOU FINALLY SAW THINGS OUR WAY, EH? YOU HAD TO SIT AND COMMUNE WITH THAT BLASTED COIN FOR WEEKS... AS IF A COIN COULD READ THE FUTURE!



NOT ONLY A SILVER COIN, BUT EVEN A CLOUD OF EARTH COULD PROPHECY THE FUTURE OF THE RENO BROTHERS, ONCE THEY BEGAN THEIR KILLING RAMPAGE! THE RENO'S DIDN'T PERMIT THE PEOPLE OF MISSOURI TO LEARN ABOUT THEM FROM WANTED POSTERS! THEY MADE THEMSELVES KNOWN FIRST-HAND!

WE WANT THE SHERIFF OF THIS HERE TOWN! THE ONE WHO'S BEEN PUTTIN' UP ALL THEM REWARD POSTERS!

HEY, FRANK, LOOK! THEY RAISED THE ANTE ON US!

IT WON'T DO NO GOOD, NOT EVEN IF THEY OFFER A MILLION, EH, SHERIFF?



OBEY THE LAW

LONG AGO, I GAVE UP HOPE THAT FRANK RENO WOULD PUT ME BACK IN CIRCULATION! I KEPT WISHING HE'D LOSE ME, AND HE HOPED HE WOULDN'T! HE BORED A HOLE THROUGH THE NICK IN ME AND PUT A LEATHER STRING THROUGH IT!

I CAN'T AFFORD TO LOSE YOU, BABY! MY LUCK'S TIED UP WITH YOU!

AS LONG AS I WAS IN HIS POCKET, TIED SECURELY TO A LOOP OF HIS BELT, FRANK RENO FELT HE WAS A WORLD BEATER! ACTUALLY HE WAS THE SAME YELLOW DOG HE'D BEEN BEFORE FATE THREW ME TO HIM! BUT YOU COULDN'T PROVE THAT BY FRANK'S AUDACITY, IGNORANCE AND SUPERSTITION CARRIED HIM THROUGH SITUATIONS TRULY BRAVE MEN WOULD HAVE DUCKED!

GET BACK—HE'S A CRACK SHOT! ARGHH!

THEN CAME THE FATEFUL DAY WHEN WE PASSED THROUGH GALLATIN, MISSOURI! LIKE A JACKASS SMELLING WATER MILES AWAY, FRANK RENO DISCOVERED THAT IT WAS TAX COLLECTION DAY IN DAVIES COUNTY!

I KNEW IT! THOSE SQUARE JOHNS ARE GOIN' IN SO FAST, YOU'D THINK THEY WAS GETTIN' MONEY INSTEAD OF GIVIN' IT!

LET'S WAIT TILL THEY FATTEN THE POT SOME MORE! NO SENSE IN RUSHING THINGS WHEN EVERY MINUTE THE PILE GROWS HIGHER!

THE PILE WAS AT IT'S HIGHEST AT TWILIGHT, WHEN THE RENOS RODE UP AND KICKED IN THE DOOR...

THE GUY THAT MOVES, AN' THE GUY THAT EVEN BREATHE'S HARD, WILL NEVER SEE DAYLIGHT AGAIN!

TO YOUR GUNS, MEN! DON'T GIVE UP WITHOUT A FIGHT! WE'RE RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS TAX MONEY!

...THERE WAS NO HOLDING OUT AGAINST FRANK RENO'S GUNS! UNFORTUNATELY, THE GOVERNMENT COLLECTORS NEVER HAD A CHANCE TO REACH THEIR PISTOLS!

WE OUGHT TO GET A COMMISSION FROM THE GRAVE-DIGGERS IN THIS BURG!

THERE ISN'T ANY DOUBT ABOUT IT! IT WAS THE RENO BROTHERS, ALL RIGHT! I'LL NEVER FORGET 'EM! I WAS IN JOPLIN WHEN THEY HELD UP ROCKY'S BAR! I CAN'T USE THIS ARM BECAUSE FRANK RENO PUT A SLUG IN IT—JUST TO BE SOCIABLE!

THEY'RE GETTING TOO DARN SOCIABLE TO LIVE! I'M CALLING IN THE JEFFERSONS!

WE JEFFERSONS TRY TO RIDE RATS DOWN BY TRAILING THEM ALL OVER AMERICA, BUT WE FEATURE DETECTIVE METHODS, SHERIFF! FOR EXAMPLE, WHO'D SUSPECT THIS DANCE HALL GIRL OF BEING A JEFFERSON OPERATIVE, OR THIS SLIMY GAMBLER? I'VE GOT A DOZEN TEAMS LIKE THIS IN A DOZEN TOWNS IN MISSOURI, SHERIFF! THEY'RE AT YOUR SERVICE!

THE RENOS CAN'T BUMP INTO 'EM TOO SOON TO SUIT ME! I'M EMPLOYIN' YOU ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF GALLATIN! IT'S A DEAL, MR. JEFFERSON!

SAY, WE'VE BEEN AWAY FROM TOWN TOO LONG! I FORGOT HUMAN BEIN'S CAME LIKE THAT! SHE'S GOOD LOOKIN'! I WAS BEGINNIN' TO THINK ALL CREATURES LOOKED LIKE BILL HERE!

KEEP THINKIN' THAT AN' YOU'LL STAY SAFE! WE CAME IN HERE FOR A FEW DRINKS, SO KEEP YOUR EYES OFF THE SKIRT!

YOU'RE TOO SUSPICIOUS, FRANK! JIM'S RIGHT, WE'VE BEEN AWAY FROM CIVILIZATION TOO LONG!

AIMIN' TO ARGUE WITH ME, JOHN? DAMES AIN'T HALF THE TROUBLE I CAN BE, IF YOU CROSS ME! GET YOUR EYES OFF THAT SQUAW AN' SEE TO THE HORSES! WE'RE LEAVIN' AS SOON AS I FINISH MY DRINK!

SURE, FRANK, YOU KNOW BEST!

I'LL SNEAK BACK INTO TOWN AS SOON AS THEY'RE ALL SNORIN' IN THEIR BLANKETS!

OBEY THE LAW

MAYBE A HOMELY MESS LIKE FRANK OR JIM CAN GO WITHOUT A WOMAN'S COMPANY, OR A FAT SLOB LIKE BILL, WHO THINKS OF NOTHIN' BUT FOOD AND BEER, BUT I'M DIFFERENT! I'M YOUNG, GOOD-LOOKIN'! I APPEAL TO 'EM! WHY SHOULDN'T I HAVE A SWEETIE IF I FEEL LIKE IT?



ARE YOU SURE IT WAS THE RENOS, RITA? LOTS OF COWBOYS TRAVEL AROUND IN GROUPS OF FOUR!

I'M POSITIVE, MR. JEFFERSON—THE WAY THE OLDER ONE WITH THE SCAR KEPT THE YOUNGEST FROM COMING OVER TO ME—IT DIDN'T LOOK RIGHT, EITHER!

QUIET—THE YOUNG ONE IS BACK! HE'S COMIN' IN THE DOOR! BEAT IT BEFORE HE SUSPECTS SOMETHIN'! GIVE RITA A FREE HAND!



DIDN'T I SEE YOU LEAVE ABOUT TWO HOURS AGO?

YEAH—I CAME BACK BECAUSE I FORGOT SOMETHIN'!

WANT ME TO HELP YOU LOOK FOR IT?

IT AIN'T NECESSARY! I'VE FOUND IT! LET'S YOU AN' I HAVE A FEW DRINKS!



SAY—WAIT A SECOND! YOU DIDN'T EVEN ASK ME FOR A KISS!

WHY SHOULD I? IT SHOULD BE A PRIVILEGE FOR A GAL TO KISS JOHN RENO! MINE'S THE KIND OF KISS WOMEN GET MARRYIN' NOTIONS FROM—AN' I'M A WILLIN' BACHELOR!



WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY YOU WERE JOHN RENO? I DON'T OFTEN GET PROPOSALS FROM IMPORTANT PEOPLE LIKE YOU!

YOU'VE STILL GOT TIME TO SAY YOU'LL MARRY ME! HOW ABOUT IT? DO I GET A PARSON?



H.HEY—WHY DID YOU DO THAT FOR?

COVER HIM, CHARLIE!



SHE'S A JEFFERSON GAL! DOES THAT EXPLAIN IT?

STICK YOUR HANDS OUT, RENO!

SURE—HOW'S THAT?



WHAT A FOOL I WAS! FRANK WAS PLUMB RIGHT—I NEVER SHOULD'VE COME!

STOP, OR WE'LL SHOOT! ALL RIGHT, LET HIM HAVE IT!



OH... GROAN! FRANK! WHY DIDN'T I LISTEN TO YOU? W.WHY? OH...



OBEY THE LAW

HE'S DEAD, MR. JEFFERSON! I SURE WISH THE OTHER RENOS WERE BELLY UP, TOO!

THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE OF THAT NOW, CHARLIE! JOHN RENO LEFT AND RETURNED IN LESS THAN TWO HOURS! THAT MEANS THE 'REST OF 'EM CAN'T BE CAMPED MORE THAN AN HOUR'S RIDE OUT OF TOWN! SEND OUT SMALL POSSES IN SEVERAL DIRECTIONS! ONE OF 'EM'S BOUND TO COME ACROSS THE RENOS!

TALK ABOUT LUCK—SOME MEN DREAM ABOUT FINDING GOLD MINES, OTHERS, THEIR SWEETHEARTS, BUT FRANK RENO HAD TO DREAM THAT JOHN RENO WAS SNEAKING UP ON HIM TO STEAL ME!

GIVE IT BACK! LET GO, YOU DIRTY DOG! LET GO, OR I'LL KILL YOU! THAT'S MY LUCKY COIN!

WH...WHAT'S WRONG WITH FRANK?

WAKE UP, FRANK! YOU'RE DREAMIN'! YOU'RE HAVIN' A NIGHTMARE! NOBODY'S STEALIN' YOUR DUMB COIN!

BUT I SAW JOHN PLAIN AS DAY! HE WAS TRYIN' TO PULL THE COIN OFF THE STRING!

NOT ONLY AIN'T JOHN IN YOUR DREAMS, FRANK—HE AIN'T HERE, EITHER! HE'S GONE!

WAIT A MINUTE—SHUT UP! I HEAR SOMETHIN'—IT'S HORSES, COWIN' THIS WAY!

AN' I DON'T LIKE WHAT'S ON THEM! IT'S A POSSE, FRANK! THAT LOVESICK FOOL MUST'VE SNEAKED INTO TOWN AN' GOT HIMSELF INTO TROUBLE!

IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR THIS COIN—IF I HADN'T DREAMED ABOUT IT, WE WOULD'A BEEN ROPE BAIT! LET'S GET OUT OF HERE, OR WE'LL ALL BE HANGIN'!

AFTER THEIR HAIRBREADTH ESCAPE, FRANK RENO WAS MORE CERTAIN THAN EVER THAT HIS LIFE DEPENDED ON POSSESSING ME, FOR HADN'T I SAVED HIM, EVEN IN HIS DREAMS?

STOP KISSIN' THAT COIN, AN' USE YOUR GUN!

WHAT FOR? THIS IS ALL THE PROTECTION I NEED!

BANG!

FOR A WHILE, IT SEEMED AS IF ALL THE LUCK IN THE WORLD HAD COME TO STAY WITH FRANK! DURING 1867, AND THE EARLY PART OF 1868, THE RENOS RAIDED ILLINOIS, MISSOURI AND IOWA, IN A SWEEP THAT LEFT MANY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS IN A RAGE!

WANTED RENO

I'M BILL JEFFERSON, SHERIFF! MY DAD SENT ME HERE TO COUNCIL BLUFFS TO CHECK ON RUMORS THAT THE RENOS HAVE BEEN SEEN IN THIS AREA! CAN I ENLIST YOUR HELP?

YOU SURE CAN, SON! THEY ROBBED THE COUNTY SAFE AT MAGNOLIA OF \$14,000! LAST WEEK—KILLED TWO GUARDS, TOO! NOT ONLY THAT—THE BAD CHARACTERS IN TOWN HAVE BEEN ACTIN' UP WITH NEW BRAVADO, SO I RECKON THE RENOS MIGHT BE IN OUR OWN BACKYARD RIGHT NOW!

YOUNG JEFFERSON DISCOVERED ON HIS OWN THAT ONE SHADY SCOUNDREL, MIKE ROGERS, WAS OBSERVED TO MEET WITH TWO STRANGERS, AND TO MAKE FREQUENT TRIPS TO THE COUNTY TREASURER TO PAY TAXES ON HIS MANY ILL-GOTTEN PROPERTIES, SO THE ROGERS' HOUSE WAS CLOSELY WATCHED!

ANY ACTIVITY, SLIM?

TWO STRANGERS WENT IN, FOUR CAME OUT AND RODE OFF FAST JUST BEFORE SUNSET! WE'LL INTERCEPT THEM WHEN THEY COME BACK!

MEANWHILE, A LITTLE INTERCEPTION, RENO STYLE WAS GOING ON AT THE COUNTY TREASURER'S AT GLENWOOD!

NOW EMPTY THEM SAFES AN' LAY THE GOLD ON THE DESK!

BANG! BANG!

OBEY THE LAW

ROGERS, THAT WAS AS PRETTY A LAY-OUT FOR A JOB AS I'VE EVER SEEN! ALL THE TIME YOU WERE BRINGIN' YOUR TAXES TO THAT TREASURER, HE NEVER CAUGHT ON ONCE THAT YOU WERE CASIN' THE PLACE!

THAT'S A REAL COMPLIMENT, COMIN' FROM A GUY LIKE YOU, FRANK! HOW ABOUT SOME BREAKFAST WHILE WE COUNT THE GOLD? IT'S GETTIN' NEAR DAWN!

DID YOU HEAR THAT? WAIT, WE'LL CATCH THEM WHEN THEY'RE INSIDE!



NO NEED TO - ROGERS IS AS GUILTY AS THE REST OF YOU! HE'LL HANG FROM THE SAME TREE! HAVE YOU SEARCHED THEM CAREFULLY, SHERIFF?

ALL THEY'VE GOT IS THEIR CLOTHES, EXCEPT FRANK RENO! HE'S GOT A LUCKY SILVER DOLLAR HE WON'T PART WITH! IT DIDN'T BRING HIM MUCH LUCK - THIS MORNING!

I'M NOT HUNG YET, SHERIFF! YOU CAN CROW WHEN I AM... WHICH WILL BE NEVER!



BILL RENO ESCAPED THE TRAP BECAUSE AT THE TIME OF THE ROBBERY HE WAS SLEEPING OFF A HEAVY HANG-OVER FROM THE NIGHT BEFORE -

WHO WANTS \$20,000? TO GUESS WHAT WE GOT?

\$50,000 - THAT'S WHAT WE GOT!

YOU'RE ALL WRONG! WHAT YOU GOT IS THE GALLOWS!



IT'S FIFTEEN FEET TO THE NEAREST DOOR - IF ANY OF YOU WANT TO DIE TRYIN' TO REACH ONE, DON'T LET ME STOP YOU!

YOU GOT ME WRONG, SHERIFF! I'M AN HONEST TAXPAYER! THESE DESPERADOES INTIMIDATED ME AND MY ASSISTANT INTO DOIN' THEIR DIRTY WORK! I'LL TELL YOU EVERYTHING ONLY PLEASE, DON'T HANG ME!

SHUT UP, YOU YELLER SQUEALER, OR I'LL KILL YA MYSELF!



THEY'RE IN THE GLENWOOD JAIL, ALL FOUR OF 'EM, BILL! THERE'S TWO GUARDS OUT FRONT AN' ONE PATROLIN' THE REAR!

I NEVER SHOWED YOU GUYS WHAT I COULD DO, WITH A KNIFE! WELL, TONIGHT'S THE NIGHT... I'LL MAKE APRIL FOOLS OUT OF EVERY LAW-MAN IN GLENWOOD!



BILL RENO, ACCUSTOMED TO PARTNERS IN CRIME, COULDN'T WORK ALONE - HE CORRALED TWO BAD MEN TO JOIN HIM - BILL'S FIRST TASK WAS TO FREE HIS TWO BROTHERS -

IT WAS THE NIGHT OF APRIL 1ST, 1868. BILL RENO AND HIS TWO HENCHMEN SNEAKED TO THE REAR! AFTER ALL, EVEN A BAD ACTOR HAS TO HAVE AN AUDIENCE!

FIVE GETS YOU TEN YOU DON'T DO IT!



FORK OVER THE TEN! HEY, JOE, BET HIM ANOTHER TEN THE TWO OTHER GUARDS RUN INTO SUDDEN DEATH THE SECOND THEY TURN THE CORNER!



BEFORE WE GO - THERE'S A GUY HERE WHO NEEDS SPECIAL ATTENTION! WE CAN'T LEAVE ROGERS FOR THE CRUEL SHERIFF TO HANG, CAN WE, JIM?

NOW, YOU PIG, YOU CAN SQUEAL ALL YOU WANT!



OBEY THE LAW

UHHH...WHAT A SIGHT! NOTHIN' ROGERS DID DESERVES SO BRUTAL A FINISH—THOSE RENOS AREN'T HUMAN!

THIS IS NO LONGER A LOCAL MATTER—EVERY SHERIFF IN EVERY TOWN, CITY, AND STATE WILL BE HUNTING THEIR HEADS—IT'S ONLY A QUESTION OF TIME UNTIL THEY'RE SIX FEET UNDER!

HAD WALTER JEFFERSON KNOWN THE MYSTERIOUS HOLD I HAD ON FRANK RENO, HE MIGHT HAVE PROPHECIED AN EARLIER FINISH, BECAUSE A WEEK LATER, FRANK RENO MADE A DISCOVERY WHICH TURNED HIS HAIR WHITE!

MY LUCKY COIN—IT'S GONE! STOLEN—I TIED IT TO MY BELT LOOP WHEN I WENT TO SLEEP!

SURE—IT'S GONE! THE LITTLE BROWN ELVES TOOK IT BACK TO FAIRYLAND WHERE IT... AARGH...

DON'T JOKE ABOUT THAT COIN! YOU GOT IT—HAND BACK THAT COIN!

HERE'S THE LUCK THAT COIN'LL BRING THE GUY WHO STOLE IT!

LET'S GET OUT OF HERE! FRANK'S GONE NUTS!

ARE YOU CRAZY? HAND ME THAT GUN!

BANG!

WITH ONE MORE DEAD, THE REST OF THE GANG BROKEN UP, AND FRANK RENO BROKEN-HEARTED OVER HIS LOSS, ROUNDING UP THE RENO GANG BECAME EASIER WITH EVERY DAY THAT PASSED!

WHERE'S FRANK AND JIM RENO?

THEY HEADED FOR INDIANA! THAT'S ALL I KNOW—P..PLEASE DON'T HANG ME!

BUT THE RENOS WERE NEAR COLLAPSE FROM EXHAUSTION—THEY HAD NO REST, NO SLEEP, AND NO FOOD!

I...I CAN'T TAKE ANOTHER STEP! I'M ALL IN—I DON'T CARE WHAT THEY DO WITH ME! I'M GONNA LET 'EM TAKE ME!

OH, YEAH? LET 'EM TRY TO CATCH ME—COIN OR NO COIN—JUST LET 'EM TRY!

BUT WHEN THEY TRIED, AND FRANK RENO RAISED HIS GUN—HE FOUND IT TOO HEAVY!

HOLD YOUR FIRE—HE'S TOO BUSHED EVEN TO AIM! WE CAN TAKE HIM ALIVE!

FRANK WAS POOR COMPANY FOR HIS BROTHER, JIM, THAT JUNE DAY IN 1868! THEY WERE HANGED TOGETHER AT NEW ALBANY, INDIANA! FRANK SCREAMED AND KICKED SO MUCH THAT SOMETHING FELL OUT OF THE CUFF OF HIS THRASHING LEG!

HEY—WHAT FELL OUT OF RENO'S TROUSER CUFF?

IT'S JUST A SILVER DOLLAR WITH A HOLE IN IT!

A SILVER DOLLAR EH? LET THE POOR HAVE IT! THERE'S PLENTY OF VALUABLE THINGS IN THERE FOR 'EM!

SURE—GOLD WATCHES, DIAMOND RINGS, JACKKNIVES—LOTS OF GOOD STUFF!

SO BACK I WENT INTO CIRCULATION—TO BECOME A THOUSAND THINGS WORTH A DOLLAR TO A THOUSAND MEN! WHEREVER THERE IS CRIME OR EVIL, YOU WILL FIND SUPERSTITION AND IGNORANCE OF THE FACT THAT CRIME DOES NOT PAY!



FOR THE POOR OF NEW ALBANY

THE END

OBEDY THE LAW

SURE AS SHOOTIN'

by
CLAUDE
MOORE



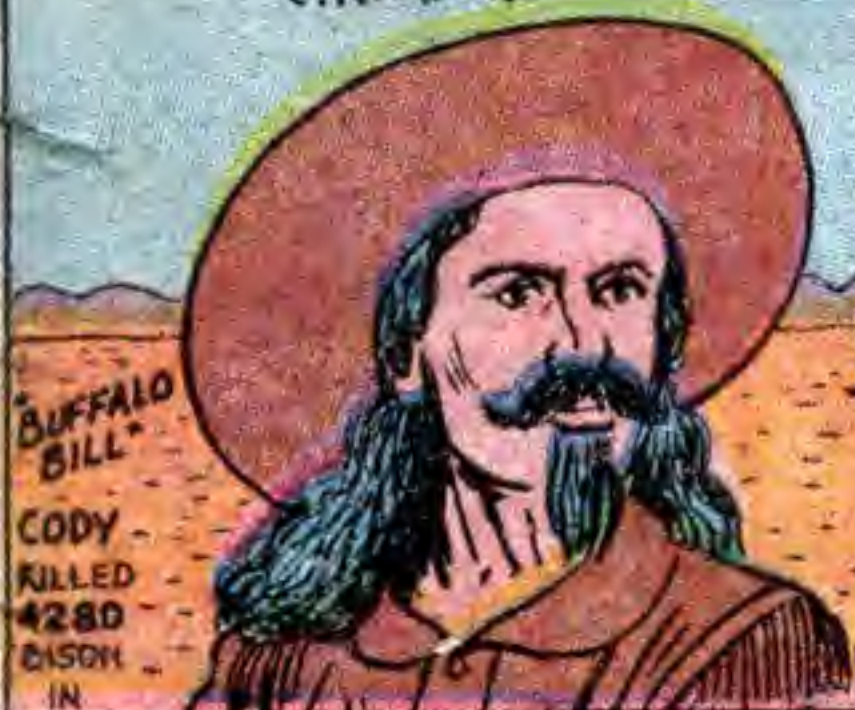
ANNIE
OAKLEY

FIRST
FAMOUS
WOMAN
SHARPSHOOTER

COULD LAY HER GUN ON THE GROUND - THROW TWO GLASS BALLS INTO THE AIR - PICK UP THE GUN AND BREAK THEM BEFORE THEY COULD HIT THE GROUND! ONCE SHE SHOT STEADILY FOR 9 HOURS, BREAKING 4772 OUT OF 5000 GLASS BALLS TOSSED IN THE AIR!

C.H. MOORE

317



"BUFFALO
BILL"

CODY
KILLED
4280
BISON
IN

17 MONTHS - HE WAS HIRED TO HUNT BISON BY THE RAILROADS TO SUPPLY TRACK BUILDING CREWS WITH MEAT FOR FOOD!



THE INJUSTICE

OF THE OLD WEST JUSTICE!

JUDGE JIM BURNETT OF Charleston, Arizona, WAS PLAYING POKER IN THE LOCAL SALOON WHICH ALSO SERVED AS HIS COURT ROOM! THE JUDGE LOST ALL OF HIS MONEY IN THE GAME, SO HE CALLED A QUICK SESSION OF COURT - HE ARRESTED THE OWNER OF THE SALOON, AND FINED HIM \$50.00 FOR BEING INTOXICATED AND DISTURBING THE PEACE. HE THEN RECESSED THE COURT - TOOK THE \$50.00 BACK TO THE POKER TABLE AND CONTINUED THE GAME!



ONE GOLD DUST BUYER WHO HAD TO TRAVEL WITH HIS VALUABLES KEPT THE GOLD DUST IN A SMALL TRUNK ALONG WITH A RATTLESNAKE TO SURPRISE ANY HIGHWAYMAN WHO MIGHT TRY TO ROB HIM!



IN 1880 TWO BANDITS HELD UP AN EXPRESS CAR ON THE SOUTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD AT WILCOX, WYOMING - ATTEMPTING TO BLOW OPEN THE SAFE WITH DYNAMITE, THEY PILED BAGS OF MEXICAN SILVER DOLLARS ON THE DYNAMITE AS TAMPER - THE EXPLOSION BLEW THE ROBBERS OUT OF THIS WORLD AND SHOWERED THE COUNTRY SIDE WITH SILVER DOLLARS WHICH WERE FOUND FOR MONTHS AFTERWARDS

BILL WATSON

WAS HANGED BY VIGILANTES - ALONG WITH A HORSETHIEF - AND LEFT TO DIE!

HE WAS CUT DOWN (HALF DEAD) BY THE HORSETHIEF'S BROTHER AND WHEN HE REGAINED HIS HEALTH - HE WENT OUT AND CAUGHT THE LEADER OF THE VIGILANTES AND HANGED HIM FROM THE SAME TREE!!



NEED WE SAY MORE?

LAST MONTH, I BOUGHT ONE OF THE CONTINUAL STREAM OF COMIC BOOKS. MODELED AFTER CRIME DOES NOT PAY. THE STORIES WERE FAIRLY GOOD IN SOME, BUT THE DRAWINGS WERE THE WORST I'VE EVER SEEN. ANOTHER THING I NOTICED WAS THAT ---- COMICS PRINTED THE STORY OF KID DROPPER WHICH I HAD ALREADY READ IN YOUR MAGAZINE. IF I HAD NOT READ CRIME DOES NOT PAY, I NEVER WOULD HAVE HEARD OF JOHNNY SPANISH, OR OF THE PART HE PLAYED IN KID DROPPER'S LIFE.

BRUCE A. AGNEW
NORFIELD ROAD, R.D. 2
WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT

I THINK IT IS A TERRIBLE THING TO COPY A PERSON'S IDEAS. IT IS EVEN MORE TERRIBLE WHEN A COMPANY IMITATES ANOTHER COMPANY'S COMIC IDEAS. CRIME DOES NOT PAY HAS MANY IMITATORS, BUT I AM CERTAIN THAT ITS READERS WILL STILL REMAIN LOYAL TO IT. NOT ONLY DOES CRIME DOES NOT PAY TEACH THE EVIL OF CRIME, BUT IT ALSO GIVES THE REAL FACTS OF THE STORY AND HAS THE BEST DIALOGUE AND ART WORK.

ROBERT E. YOUNG, 338 S. 16 ST.
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

THERE HAVE BEEN MANY PEOPLE COPYING YOUR IDEA OF CRIME DOES NOT PAY, BUT NONE CAN COMPARE WITH IT. THEY ARE REPEATING THE STORIES YOU HAVE ALREADY PRINTED.

IDA OWENS, 602 N. 5 ST.
CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY

I AM EMPLOYED AT A LOCAL RETAIL STORE THAT HANDLES A LARGE NUMBER OF COMIC BOOKS. EACH TIME I GET A CHANCE, I RECOMMEND CRIME DOES NOT PAY. ALL THE IMITATORS OF THIS FINE BOOK ARE MILES BEHIND YOU.

ED OSBORN, 3317 2ND AVE.
BILLINGS, MONTANA

YOUR CRIME DOES NOT PAY IS TOPS. IT'S SUCH A SUCCESS THAT MANY OTHER COMIC BOOKS ARE NOW COMING OUT WITH TRUE CRIME STORIES. I HAVE READ A FEW OF THEM AND FIND THEY CAN'T COMPARE WITH YOUR MAGAZINE. CRIME DOES NOT PAY WAS THE FIRST OF ITS KIND PUBLISHED AND I'M SURE IT WILL ALWAYS STAND OUT FROM THE OTHERS.

AL KAMINSKI, JR.
75 UPSALA ST.
WORCESTER, MASS.

I JUST GOT THROUGH READING A CRIME DOES NOT PAY MAGAZINE AND AN IMITATION OF YOUR COMIC. BETWEEN THE TWO, I PREFERRED THE CRIME DOES NOT PAY BOOK.

DAVID S. BOOR
517 WEST CENTER ST.
MAHONNY CITY, PA.

SINCE YOU CREATED CRIME DOES NOT PAY, A LOT OF SIMILAR COMICS NOW APPEAR, BUT IN MY OPINION, NONE OF THESE ARE AS GOOD AS THE ORIGINAL AND BEST, CRIME DOES NOT PAY!

ROY EUGENE TAYLOR
2014 SO. MAIN, JONESBORO,
ARKANSAS

YOUR MAGAZINE IS HARD TO GET HERE, BUT WHEN I DO GET IT, I FIND IT'S WORTH WAITING FOR. LATELY, I'VE NOTICED MANY TRUE CRIME BOOKS ON THE MAGAZINE RACKS, BUT NONE WILL EVER TAKE THE PLACE OF CRIME DOES NOT PAY.

JOSEPH MISHIKITIS,
357 SO. MEADE ST.
WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA

I HAVE BEEN A REGULAR READER OF CRIME DOES NOT PAY COMICS FOR SEVERAL YEARS AND ENJOY IT VERY MUCH. I HAVE NOTICED RECENTLY THAT THERE HAS BEEN A LOT OF IMITATIONS OF YOUR FINE MAGAZINE, BUT I AM CONFIDENT THAT THERE WILL NEVER BE A COMIC MAGAZINE EVEN HALF AS GOOD AS CRIME DOES NOT PAY.

HUGH ELLIOTT
R. 3 HERMAN AVE.
TUSCALOOSA, ALA.

THERE SHOULD BE A LAW AGAINST THE CHEAP IMITATIONS THAT HAVE SPRUNG UP SINCE YOU FIRST PUBLISHED YOUR WONDERFUL MAGAZINE. CRIME DOES NOT PAY. YOU MAY BE SURE THAT MY ENTIRE FAMILY READS THIS WORTHY PIECE OF LITERATURE.

MRS. ANNE L. OWENS, BOX 101
UPPER MARLBORO, MARYLAND

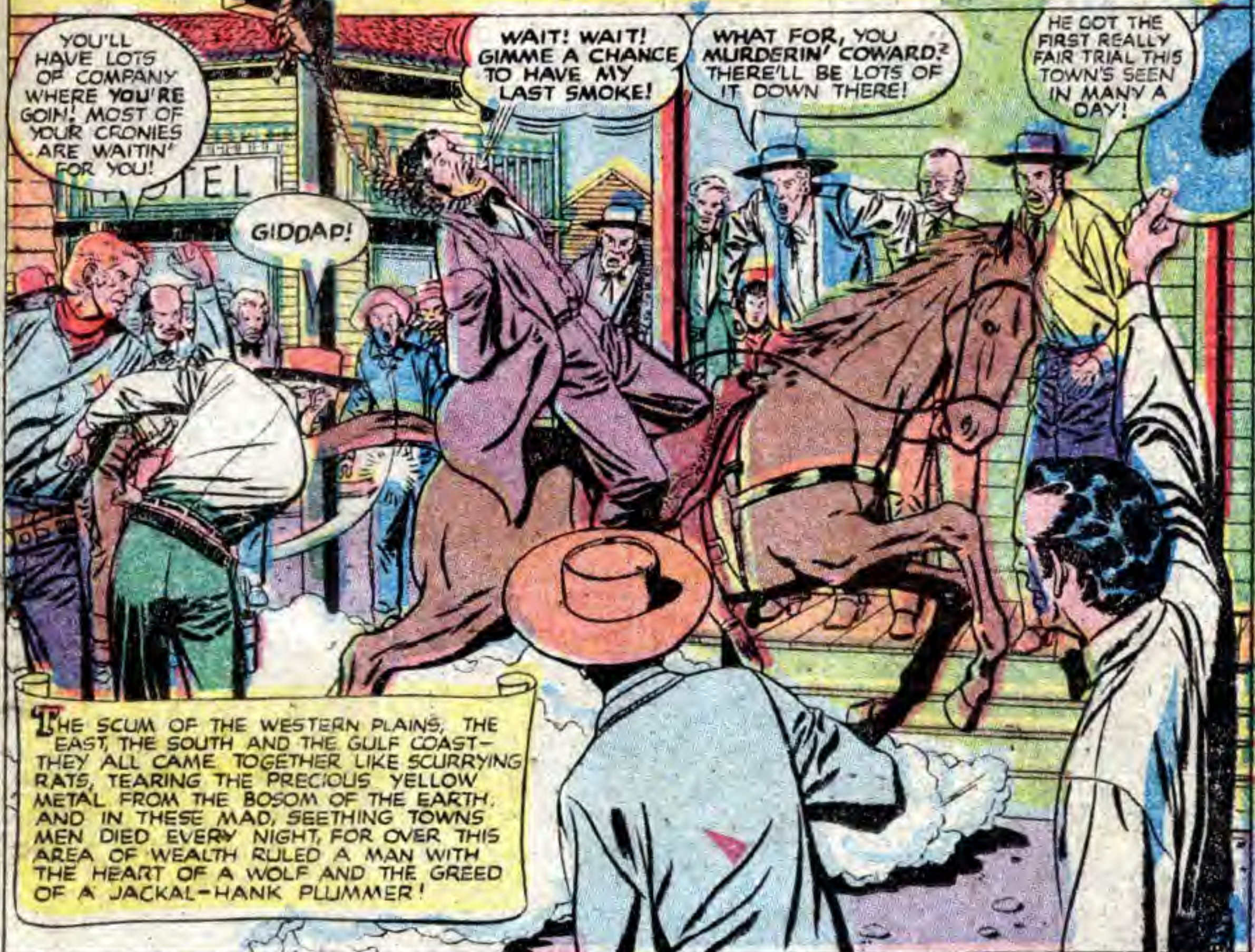
OBEY THE LAW

A
TRUE
WILD WEST
STORY

HANK PLUMMER

THE LEAD-SLINGING RULER OF ONE OF THE
MOST VICIOUS GANGS EVER TO PREY
ON INNOCENT PROSPECTORS!

HANK
PLUMMER
HANGED
1867



THE SCUM OF THE WESTERN PLAINS, THE EAST, THE SOUTH AND THE GULF COAST—THEY ALL CAME TOGETHER LIKE SCURRYING RATS, TEARING THE PRECIOUS YELLOW METAL FROM THE BOSOM OF THE EARTH. AND IN THESE MAD, SEETHING TOWNS MEN DIED EVERY NIGHT, FOR OVER THIS AREA OF WEALTH RULED A MAN WITH THE HEART OF A WOLF AND THE GREED OF A JACKAL—HANK PLUMMER!

BANNOCK, IDAHO TERRITORY, 1863—THE NEAREST THING TO HADES THAT EVER DISGRACED OUR GREAT WESTERN FRONTIER, AND A HAUNT OF THE DEVIL—DODGE CITY, IN ITS REDDEST DAYS COULD NEVER HOLD A CANDLE TO THIS KILLER'S CARNIVAL!

SEE THAT MAN WHO JUST CAME IN, SHERIFF—THE ONE IN THE CITY GET-UP WITH THE FANCY HIGH HAT? THAT'S HANK PLUMMER! HE'S AS MEAN AS THEY COME AND DEADLY AS A COBRA WHEN IT COMES TO SLINGIN' LEAD! HE'S BEEN RUN OUT OF CALIFORNEY FOR WORKIN' A CROOKED DECK AND BEIN' TOO ANXIOUS ON THE DRAW! HE'LL BEAR LOTS OF YOUR WATCHIN'!

I'VE HEARD OF HIM! THE OTHER ONE'S JACK CLEVELAND, A MURDERIN' ROAD AGENT—THOUGH NO ONE'S BEEN ABLE TO PROVE IT! FUNNY, THEIR BEIN' TOGETHER! I HEARD THEY HAD A RUN-IN DOWN IN ORO FINO! I WAS TOLD THEY ALMOST KILLED EACH OTHER OVER A GIRL!

COME ON, JACK, LET'S LIKKER UP A BIT! AFTERWARDS WE'LL HUNT UP SOME KIND OF A SHACK! WE'LL SHOW THESE HICK MUD-PUDDLERS THAT HANK PLUMMER AN' JACK CLEVELAND ARE IN TOWN!

THE JUGHEADS IN THIS TOWN DON'T KNOW WHO I AM, BUT THEY'RE GONNA FIND OUT MIGHTY SOON! I'M GONNA KILL TWO BIRDS WITH ONE STONE!



OBEDY THE LAW



OBEY THE LAW



OBEY THE LAW



OBEDY THE LAW



I GOTTA HAND IT TO HANK—NOW HE'S THE SHERIFF OF BOTH TOWNS, AN' TO HEAR HIM TELL IT, A REAL SERVANT OF THE PEOPLE! IT'S A LAUGH, AIN'T IT?

HE GAVE OUT SO MUCH FREE WHISKEY, THEM MINERS WOULD VOTE FOR THE DEVIL HIMSELF! SAY, LISTEN—HE'S TALKIN' ABOUT US NOW!



...AND AS MY FIRST OFFICIAL ACT AS SHERIFF OF VIRGINIA CITY, I'M GONNA ARREST THE MEN YOU ALL SUSPECT OF MURDERIN' JOE DILLINGBEE, YOUR LATE DEPUTY SHERIFF! THAT'S THEM OVER THERE! BRING 'EM IN THE SALOON, BOYS, AND WE'LL HOLD THE TRIAL RIGHT NOW!

WHAT TH... WE'VE BEEN DOUBLE-CROSSED! WAIT'LL I GET MY SIGHTS ON THAT JAWIN' NO-GOOD WORM EATER!

YOU HEARD HIM! GET GOIN'—INTO THE SALOON!



SIT DOWN, OR BE SHOT DOWN! EVERYONE SUSPECTS YOU, SO YOU MIGHT AS WELL GO ON TRIAL, JUST TO MAKE IT LOOK GOOD! WE GOT OUR JURY—YOU'RE AS GOOD AS FREE NOW! JUST PLAY ALONG WITH ME, SAVVY?

WATCH WHO YOU'RE SHOVIN'! OH, OH, I GOTCHA, HANK! YOU HAD ME AN' FRANK WORRIED FOR A SPELL, THOUGH!

NOW I GET IT—HE'S USIN' US TO PUT HIM IN MORE SOLID—THAT'S OKAY!



SHERIFF, WE FIND THE DEFENDANTS, WHISKEY BILL, GRAVES AND MEXALLI FRANK, NOT GUILTY!

THIS NEW GANG IS DEALIN' 'EM OUT TO US FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE DECK! I DON'T LIKE THAT NEW SHERIFF PLUMMER, OR THE COMPANY HE KEEPS! COME ON, WE'LL GO HAVE A LITTLE TALK WITH SOME OF THE OTHER CITIZENS!



PLUMMER AIN'T HERE TO BRING US LAW AND ORDER! HE'S TIED UP SOMEHOW WITH THESE MURDERIN' COYOTES, OR I MISS MY GUESS—AND WHISKEY BILL AND MEXALLI FRANK ARE AS GUILTY AS SIN! WE ALL KNOW THAT! ALL OF US ARE HONEST MEN—MERCHANTS, FREIGHTERS, MINERS—WE'VE ALL WORKED HARD, AND WE'VE GOT SOMETHIN' TO PROTECT! ON OUR OATH AS MEN OF LAW AND ORDER, WE'VE GOT TO TAKE ACTION TO CLEAN UP THIS TOWN, AND NOW—BEFORE THE OUTLAWS GET ANY STRONGER!

WE'RE WITH YUH, RED—IT'S A CASE OF FIGHTIN' FOR OUR CIVIL RIGHTS, OR GOIN' DOWN IN SHAMEFUL COWARDICE!

I'M FOR VOTIN' RED SAVORY IN AS OUR NEW AN' LAWFUL SHERIFF!



NOW THAT'S THE KIND OF JURY I LIKE—NOT GUILTY! WE KILL ALL WE PLEASE, AN' THESE GRUBBERS CAN'T DO A THING, 'CAUSE WE'RE THE LAW! HIC!

AN' HOW—ONLY GIMME ANOTHER SWIG OF THAT ROTGUT, WILL YA? HEY—WHAT TH...



THIS IS TO KEEP YOU QUIET, YOU RATTLES! NOW JUST TIE THESE SKUNKS ABOARD THEM HORSES, AN' WE'LL TAKE 'EM FOR A LITTLE TRIP UP THE TRAIL, AN' GIVE 'EM A REAL TRIAL!

OBEDY THE LAW

YOU CAN'T TRY US AGAIN! WE BEEN TRIED FAIR AND SQUARE BY SHERIFF PLUMMER! WHERE IN TARNATION DO YOU COME OFF GIVIN' US ANOTHER ONE?

WHY, IT'S YOU, JIMMY TODD! YOU'RE SWINGIN' ME?

WE GAVE YOU A FAIR TRIAL, WHISKEY BILL! I'M SORRY AS HECK, BUT WE DON'T HOLD WITH THE VERDICT OF PLUMMER'S COURT! YOU TWO WERE SEEN BY FOUR PEOPLE DOIN' THE SHOOTIN', SO YUH BETTER DIE BEFORE YUH GET ANY MORE KILLIN'S ON YOUR CONSCIENCE!

GET TO YOUR HORSE, JIMMY! WE'VE GOTTA GET HOME BEFORE ONE OF THAT GANG SPOTS US! JUST LEAVE THESE VARMINTS HANGIN', SO PLUMMER CAN SEE THE HANDWRITIN' ON THE WALL! IF HE DON'T, WE'LL KEEP IT UP TILL THE WHOLE LOT OF THEM LAWLESS VARMINTS ARE DRIVEN OUT, OR ARE SIX FEET UNDER!



BILL AND FRANK WERE PRETTY DRUNK, BUT THEY DIDN'T CLIMB UP THAT TREE AND HANG THEMSELVES! IT MEANS A CITIZENS' MOVEMENT HAS STARTED HERE!

IF WE ONLY KNEW WHO THEY WERE, WE COULD WIPE 'EM OUT! BUT THEY WORK UNDER COVER! WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO?

WE'RE GONNA BEAT THEM AT THEIR OWN GAME, THAT'S WHAT! THESE PICKIN'S ARE TOO GOOD TO GIVE UP WITHOUT A STRUGGLE! I'M GOIN' OVER TO SEE TORCHY NOW! SHE'S SWEET ON ME, AND HALF THE MEN IN TOWN ARE CRAZY ABOUT HER! IF ANYONE CAN HELP US, SHE'S THE ONE! SHE'LL GIVE ME THE LOW-DOWN!

I CAUGHT YOUR ACT, TORCHY, BABY! YOU SURE CAN WOW 'EM WITH THOSE LOVE SONGS! I GUESS I OUGHT TO GIVE IN AND MARRY YOU BEFORE SOME MINER BEATS MY TIME, BUT THAT CAN WAIT! RIGHT NOW I NEED YOUR HELP, DARLING!

YOU MEAN WE'LL GET MARRIED SOON? OH, HON, I'LL DO ANYTHING FOR YOU—ANYTHING! BUT HOW ABOUT SETTING THE DATE?

YOU'RE GONNA BE THE BRIDE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT MAN IN THE WEST!



YOU LOOK LIKE A QUEEN WITH THAT NECKLACE—AND YOU WILL BE MY QUEEN, JUST AS SOON AS I CAN GET THOSE SQUARE JOHNS OUT OF MY HAIR, SO'S WE CAN BE MARRIED IN PEACE! YOU CAN FIND OUT WHO THEY ARE, IF ANYONE CAN! START WITH JIMMY TODD, THE OWNER OF THE GENERAL STORE! HE'S IN WITH THEM FOR SURE! THERE'LL BE PLENTY MORE WHERE THESE DIAMONDS CAME FROM, BABY. PLENTY MORE!

I'LL DO MY BEST, SWEET! COME AROUND TOMORROW! I'LL HAVE SOME NEWS FOR YOU!

THERE'S ALWAYS SOMEONE WATCHIN' EVERY MOVE YUH MAKE, HANK! THEY MUST SUSPECT YUH OF BEING WITH US!

THAT MEANS WE'LL ALL BE GETTIN' WHAT FRANK AND BILL GOT, IF WE SIT AND WAIT FOR IT! WE GOTTA ACT FAST! WHO ARE THEY, ANYWAY? WHAT ARE THEIR NAMES?

TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT THE NAMES ON THAT SHEET—CAUSE EVERY ONE OF 'EM WILL BE DEAD, COME TONIGHT! HERE'S WHAT WE'RE GONNA DO! LISTEN!....



OBEY THE LAW

THAT NIGHT, THE PLUMMER GANG WENT SILENTLY TO WORK! EVERY KNOWN MEMBER OF THE CITIZENS' COMMITTEE WAS VICIOUSLY MURDERED, AND ONLY A FEW ESCAPED TO CARRY ON!



YAGER—SEE THAT BIG MAN ON THE WAGON, THE ONE IN BLACK—THAT'S LLOYD MAGRUDER! I HEAR HE'S PULLIN' OUT AND HEADIN' EAST WITH OVER FIFTY THOUSAND IN GOLD—THE OTHERS ARE HIS GUARDS! YOU AND YOUR BOYS FALL IN WITH THEM TONIGHT! YOU MAKE BELIEVE YOU'RE GOIN' THE SAME WAY—ACT FRIENDLY-LIKE!

THAT SOUNDS REAL FINE! WE'LL HAVE THE GOLD BACK HERE BY TOMORROW SUNDOWN! THEN LET'S ALL GO ON A DRUNK FOR A WEEK!



MR. MAGRUDER, I DON'T LIKE THE LOOKS OF THOSE FELLOWS THAT JOINED US THIS AFTERNOON! I'VE SEEN THAT ONE CALLED YAGER, TALKIN' TO SHERIFF PLUMMER, OR I'M A KNOCK-KNEED RATTLER! AND YOU KNOW WHAT THEY'RE SAYIN' ABOUT PLUMMER BEIN' BEHIND ALL THEM KILLINGS LATELY!

OH, CHUCK, THEY'RE A HARMLESS LOT, AND ANYWAY, WE'RE AS MANY AS THEY ARE! YOU'RE JUST A BIT JUMPY, BUT POST A GUARD TONIGHT IF YOU WISH!



DON'T MAKE A SOUND TILL WE'RE ON 'EM! I'LL TAKE THE GUARD—THE REST OF YOU GET THE OTHERS! AND I'LL KILL ANYONE OF YOU THAT LETS ONE OF THEM ESCAPE—COME ON!



IT'S MAGRUDER AND HIS BOYS—THEY WERE SET UPON BY THOSE MURDERIN' THIEVES, THE PLUMMER GANG! WE CAN'T PRETEND WE AREN'T SURE WHO DID IT ANYMORE—IT WAS GEORGE IVES AND HIS GANG OF CUT-THROATS, AND JOE YAGER, FOR SURE! THIS KIND OF KILLIN' IS HIS WORK, THE FILTHY HYENA! I ONLY HOPE IT LEADS US TO THAT FAKE SHERIFF PLUMMER THIS TIME!



LET'S GO—WE'LL ROUND UP SOME OF THE BOYS WE CAN TRUST AND BEGIN ON THAT LIST! THIS IS ALL I CAN TAKE! THEY'LL PAY FOR THIS! COME ON, I KNOW WHERE IVES HANGS OUT!

COME ON OUT, IVES, OR WE'LL BURN YOU OUT! WE KNOW YOU'RE IN THERE AND THE REST OF YOU, TOO, YOU MURDERIN' CROOKS!

IT'S THEM CITIZEN VIGILANTES! THEY'VE GOT THE PLACE SURROUNDED!

WE MAY AS WELL GO OUT! IF WE CAN'T BLUFF 'EM, MAYBE WE CAN GET A CHANCE TO SHOOT IT OUT LATER!

YEAH—THEY AIN'T GOT NO PROOF OF NOTHIN'—AN' DEAD MEN CAN'T TALK! LET'S GO OUT!



OBEDY THE LAW



GO AHEAD, IVES, WHY DON'T YOU MAKE A BREAK FOR IT?

YOU AIN'T GOT NOTHIN' ON US! TAKE US TO VIRGINIA CITY! WE WANT A JURY TRIAL! THE SHERIFF'S GONNA HEAR ABOUT THIS! YOU CAN'T ARREST HIS DEPUTIES!

OH, CAN'T WE? YOU'RE GONNA FIND OUT DIFFERENT!

IT'S ABOUT TIME THOSE PIGS WERE BROUGHT TO JUSTICE! I HEAR THEY'RE GONNA HOLD A MINERS' COURT AN' TRY THEM MURDERERS TODAY! AT LEAST A MAN AN' HIS FAMILY WILL BE SAFE IN THIS TERRITORY!

THERE'S ONLY ONE LINGO THAT IVES AND HIS BUNCH SAVVY, AN' THAT'S THE ROPE! I DON'T SEE WHY THEY DON'T SWING PLUMMER ALONG WITH 'EM! EVERYONE KNOWS HE'S BEHIND THAT GANG!

GIMME A DRINK OF WHISKEY! IF THERE'S ANYTHING THAT MAKES ME THIRSTY, IT'S A TRIAL!

I'LL BET IT'S MAKING SOME OF THEM OUTLAWS A MITE DRY INSIDE TOO! DID YA SEE THAT GEORGE IVES CARRY ON BEFORE HE PUT THE FINGER ON PLUMMER? MY BOYS ONLY EIGHT, BUT HE'S MORE OF A MAN THAN THAT COWARD! BUT THAT'S THE WAY THEM KILLERS ARE—WEAK INSIDE! THEY DIE CRAWLIN'!

NEVADA CITY

ALL THAT NIGHT THE VIGILANTES RODE, ARRIVING IN BANNOCK BEFORE DAWN—BEFORE PLUMMER COULD GET THE NEWS OF THE NEVADA CITY TRIALS!

WHOA! TOM, TAKE THREE MEN AND COVER THE REAR! THE REST OF YOU COME WITH ME! WE WANNA TAKE PLUMMER WITHOUT ANY SHOOTIN' IF WE CAN!



SHERIFF PLUMMER

YOU DREW THE LUCKY NUMBER, HANK! GET YOUR PANTS ON AN' COME WITH US!

W-WHAT THE—WHAT THE BLAZES DO YA MEAN BY BUSTIN' IN HERE LIKE THIS?

A LITTLE LAW-FUL BUSINESS, PLUMMER! YOUR GAME'S UP, GET DRESSED!



HAVE MERCY ON ME, MEN! DON'T DO THIS TERRIBLE THING TO ME! MY WIFE... GIVE ME A CHANCE TO LIVE IT DOWN!

SURE, WE'LL GIVE YOU A CHANCE, PLUMMER! THE SAME CHANCE YOU GAVE KANSAS JAMES AND THE REST—REMEMBER HOW THEY DIED? GEORGE IVES CONFESSED EVERYTHING BEFORE HE LEFT THIS WORLD! AND YOU'VE BEEN FOUND GUILTY, JUST LIKE HIM!

HE'S YELLER—JUST LIKE ALL HIS BREED OF SNAKES! AT LEAST HE GOT A FAIR TRIAL—WITH A LEGAL JURY!



DO ANYTHING YOU WANT WITH ME, BUT LET ME LIVE! I DON'T WANT TO DIE!



THAT WAS THE APPROPRIATE END OF HANK PLUMMER, OUTLAW AND MURDERER! EVEN THEN THE REMAINDER OF THE GANG WAS BEING ROUNDED UP TO MEET THE SAME FATE! SO DIED THE PLUMMER GANG, PROVING AS EARLY AS THAT IN OUR HISTORY THAT CRIME DOES NOT PAY!



The End

BATS IN THE BADLANDS

HMMM... I PLUMB FORGOT I WAS STORIN' MY POWDER IN THIS TOBACCY BAG!



HECK— EVERY TIME WE START A GRAVEYARD, IT'S FULL INSIDE A' TWO WEEKS!



BEEN MAKIN' YOUR OWN AMMUNITION AGAIN, EH, JED?

AL'S 8 GAUGE SHORE HAS A POWERFUL KICK!



CRASH!

BANG!



DANG IT!... WHENEVER I SINK A WELL 'ROUND HERE, ALL I GET IS OIL!!



GRAVEL GULCH
NAT'L BANK

AH SEE LUKE TIMMINS WAS RUNNIN' SHORT OF CASH AGAIN!



WELL—TAIN'T ON THE MAP SO IT MUST BE A MIRAGE!

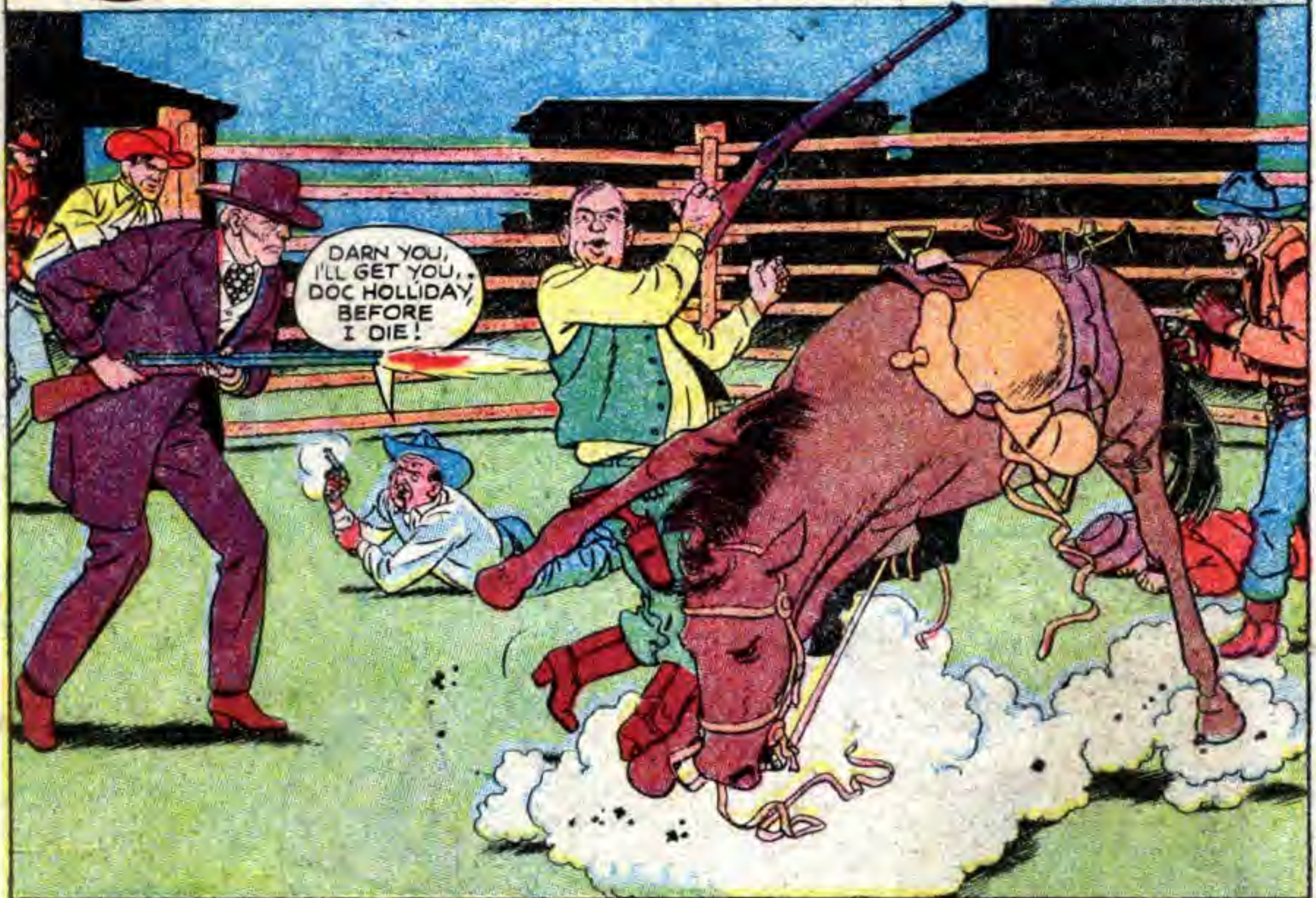


OBEY THE LAW



'DOC' HOLLIDAY

HE REACHED A FAME THAT FEW GUN-TOTERS OF THE OLD WEST HAVE EQUALLED—SOME STILL SAY HE HAD THE FASTEST DRAW OF THAT ERA!



WAS DOC HOLLIDAY A POET, SCHOLAR, AND HUMANITARIAN AS SOME SAY—OR WAS HE, AS OTHERS CLAIM, A GOLD-BLOODED KILLER AND THE MOST INFAMOUS GUNMAN OF THE LAWLESS WEST? HERE IS HIS STORY—YOU DECIDE!

IN 1876, DALLAS, TEXAS, WAS THE LAST OUTPOST OF CIVILIZATION IN THE WEST! THE RAPIDLY GROWING CACTUS TOWN BOASTED THE ONLY DENTIST FOR OVER 400 MILES... DOC HOLLIDAY!

COME IN, COWBOY, AND LET'S HAVE A LOOK AT THAT INFECTED TOOTH! I WON'T BE LONG, MRS. SMITH, THEN I'LL LOOK AT BILLY'S TEETH!

I CAME 400 MILES TO HAVE THIS TOOTH OUT, DOC! IT'S BEEN DRIVIN' ME LOCO FOR A WEEK! THE WAY I FEEL NOW, I AIN'T SO SURE I WANT IT OUT AFTER ALL!

GEE, WHIZ, MOM, LOOKIT THEM SIX GUNS! I'LL BET HE'S KILLED A HUNDRED MEN! SEE THEM NOTCHES? GOSH!

DOC, YOU SURE THIS AIN'T GONNA HURT MUCH? I'D RATHER FACE A WHOLE GANG OF RUSTLERS SINGLE-HANDED, THAN HAVE A TOOTH PULLED! DON'T TAKE ANY LONGER THAN YOU HAVE TO, WILL YA, DOC?

DON'T WORRY, IT'LL BE OUT BEFORE YOU KNOW IT! I'M NOT GOIN' TO STRAP YOU DOWN IN THE CHAIR, COWBOY, SO BRACE YOURSELF!



OBEY THE LAW



YIIIE-OWW!

HOLD STILL, COWBOY! HERE IT COMES-THERE, THAT WASN'T SO BAD, WAS IT?



SO BAD! IT WAS MURDER! I'LL BET YOU STILL HAVE ALL YOUR TEETH! I'VE HALF A MIND TO THROW YOU DOWN IN THE SEAT AND PULL OUT ONE OF YOURS, JUST TO LET YOU KNOW HOW IT FEELS! WOW! IT STILL HURTS!

YOU GUN-SLINGERS GET ME! YOU'D TAKE A BULLET WITHOUT A SQUAWK, BUT YOU GET A TOOTH PULLED AND YOU SCREAM! COUGH! YOUR LUNGS OUT! THAT LITTLE BOY OUTSIDE WOULDN'T MAKE HALF THE RACKET YOU DID! HERE, RINSE IT OUT! THE PAIN WILL BE ALL GONE IN TEN MINUTES!



MAYBE THE PAIN WILL, BUT MY MOUTH'S GONNA HURT FOR A LONG WHILE! IT SURE BEATS ME HOW COME MORE DENTISTS DON'T GET THEIR HEADS BLOWN OFF! IF I WAS YOU, I WOULDN'T MAKE ANY BETS ABOUT DYIN' OF OLD AGE!

COUGH-COUGH! I WOULDN'T BET ON IT MYSELF... BUT NOT FOR THE SAME REASON! COUGH! COUGH! SAY, THAT'S A SWEET COLT YOU HAVE THERE! MIND IF I HAVE A LOOK AT IT?



BE CAREFUL WITH THAT IRON, DOC! IT WASN'T MADE FOR THE LIKES OF YOU! IT'S GOT A HAIR-TRIGGER! WHEN YOU'RE FINISHED LOOKIN' AT IT, HAND IT BACK AND I'LL SHOW YOU HOW IT WORKS!



YOU MEAN LIKE THIS?

HEY, THAT'S MIGHTY NICE SHOOTIN', DOC.. AND FROM THE HIP, TOO! I KNOW SOME HOMBRES WHO'D GIVE ANYTHIN' TO BE ABLE TO SHOOT LIKE THAT! HOW DID A DUDE LIKE YOU EVER LEARN TO USE A .45 THAT WAY?



SAME WAY YOU DID, I GUESS! MY FATHER HAS A RANCH IN RUSK COUNTY! HE TAUGHT ME EVERYTHING, BUT HE WOULDN'T LET ME STAY THERE! HE WANTED ME TO GET AN EDUCATION AND MAKE SOMETHIN' OF MYSELF, SO I BECAME A DENTIST. AND I HATE IT!

WELL, IF YOU EVER DECIDE TO GIVE IT UP, COME TO DODGE CITY AN' LOOK ME UP! MY BROTHER AND HIS BOYS SURE COULD USE A MAN AS HANDY WITH A GUN AS YOU ARE!



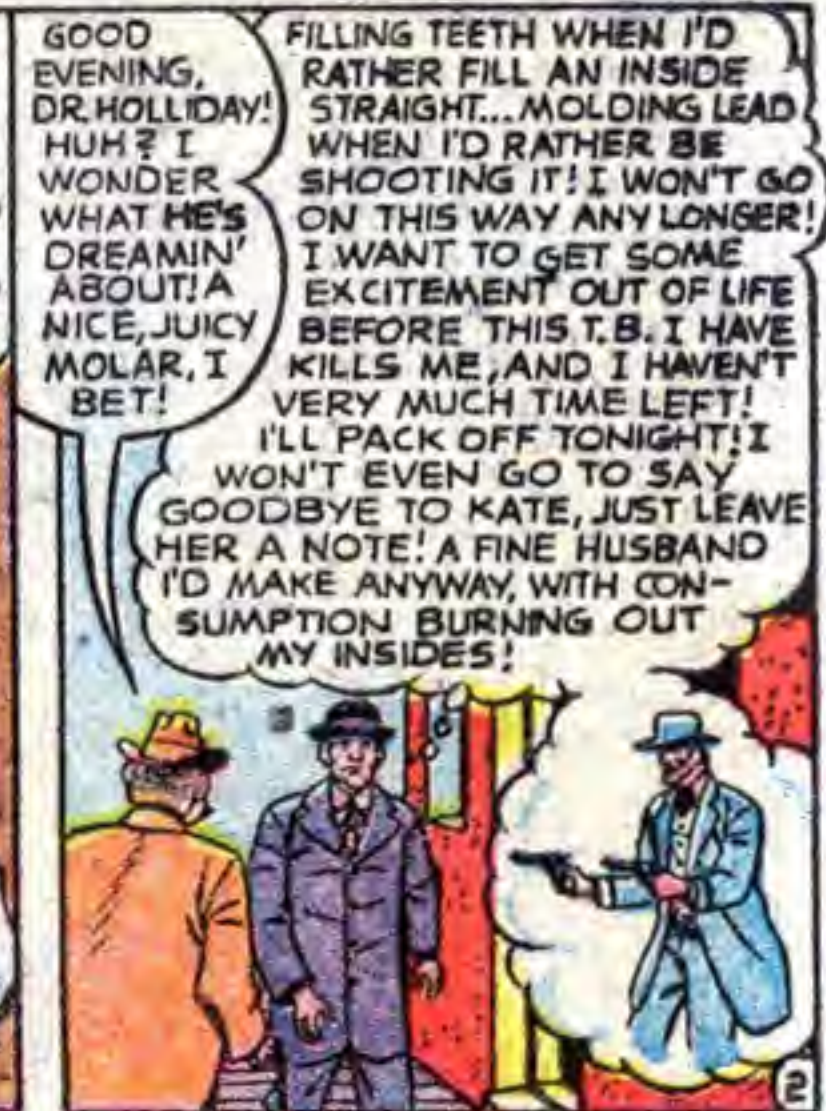
MAYBE I WILL! I WASN'T CUT OUT TO SPEND MY DAYS IN AN OFFICE, PULLING TEETH! WHO'LL I ASK FOR WHEN I GET THERE?

EARP, WYATT EARP! AND I'M MUCH OBLIGED, DOC! THE PAIN'S NEARLY GONE ALREADY!



GOSH, DR. HOLLIDAY, WAS THAT THE WYATT EARP, WHO'S MARSHAL OF DODGE CITY? BOY, MY FATHER SAYS HE'S THE FASTEST MAN ON THE DRAW IN THE WHOLE WORLD! HE AIN'T AFRAID OF ANYTHING! JUST WAIT TILL I TELL PA I SAW HIM!

SO THAT'S WYATT EARP! THAT MAN IS EVERYTHING I WOULD LIKE TO BE-STRONG AND HEALTHY-AND MEN FEAR AND RESPECT HIM!



GOOD EVENING, DR. HOLLIDAY! HUH? I WONDER WHAT HE'S DREAMIN' ABOUT! A NICE, JUICY MOLAR, I BET!

FILLING TEETH WHEN I'D RATHER FILL AN INSIDE STRAIGHT... MOLDING LEAD WHEN I'D RATHER BE SHOOTING IT! I WON'T GO ON THIS WAY ANY LONGER! I WANT TO GET SOME EXCITEMENT OUT OF LIFE BEFORE THIS T.B. I HAVE KILLS ME, AND I HAVEN'T VERY MUCH TIME LEFT! I'LL PACK OFF TONIGHT! I WON'T EVEN GO TO SAY GOODBYE TO KATE, JUST LEAVE HER A NOTE! A FINE HUSBAND I'D MAKE ANYWAY, WITH CONSUMPTION BURNING OUT MY INSIDES!

OBEDY THE LAW

AND SO, DOC HOLLIDAY BEGAN TO MAKE THE ROUNDS OF THE WEST.. JACKSBORO, FORT WORTH, DENVER AND FORT GRIFFORD-IT WAS ALWAYS THE SAME: A TURNED CARD, DEADLY WORDS, AND THEN SUDDEN DEATH, ANOTHER NOTCH, A GROWING REPUTATION!

TWO TO YOU, COL. REED, TWO FOR THE DOC! I'M TAKIN' ONE! NOW TO SETTLE DOWN TO THE REAL BUSINESS, EH, GENTS?

IF I WERE GETTIN' YOUR CARDS, STARR, I'D BE IMPATIENT TO SETTLE DOWN TO BUSINESS TOO! AH, WELL, YOUR LUCK CAN'T GO ON FOREVER!

THAT'S A FIXED DECK IF I EVER SAW ONE! I WONDER HOW HIGH A COME-ON HE DEALT ME!

I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH LUCK! THAT BREAKS ME! IT'S ALL YOURS, GENTLEMEN!

I'LL JUST MATCH THAT. AND RAISE YOU \$200, DOC! THE ONE WHO WINS THIS WILL BREAK THE GAME!

I CALL STARR!

THREE KINGS! BEAT THAT IF YOU CAN!

I'M AFRAID COL. REED WAS RIGHT, STARR! YOUR LUCK COULDN'T KEEP UP FOREVER- I'VE GOT FOUR QUEENS!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN? YOU'VE ONLY GOT THREE QUEENS! I DEALT YOU... I MEAN...

EXACTLY! YOU KNEW WHAT I HAD BEFORE YOU SAW MY CARDS! I SAW YOU DEALING FROM THE BOTTOM, STARR!

YOU'VE MADE A BIG MISTAKE- NO STRANGER CAN COME INTO FORT GRIFFORD AND CALL ITS SONS CHEATS! WE DON'T TAKE THAT STUFF HERE!



DON'T DRAW!



THROW IT DOWN, SON, OR I'LL TEAR YOUR HEAD OFF WITH BOTH BARRELS!

SURE, HERE IT IS, SHERIFF! IT WAS A CLEAR CASE OF SELF-DEFENSE! HE WAS CHEATING, AND WHEN I CAUGHT HIM, HE WENT FOR HIS GUN! I MANAGED TO BEAT HIM TO IT WITH MY ROD! THERE'S NOTHIN' WRONG WITH THAT, IS THERE?

NO, I RECKON NOT, IF THAT'S HOW IT HAPPENED, BUT IT'S UP TO THE JURY TO DECIDE THAT! I CAN TELL YOU RIGHT NOW, FOLKS AROUND HERE DON'T HAVE MUCH SYMPATHY FOR STRANGERS WHO COME INTO OUR TOWN AND START KILLIN' OUR FRIENDS!



OBEY THE LAW



I'M MISS KATHRYN FISCHEL! I MADE A RESERVATION HERE!

HE'S JUST GOT TO BE HERE THIS TIME! I'VE SEARCHED EVERY TOWN IN TEXAS FOR TWO YEARS! EVERY TOWN I'VE GONE TO, SAM'S LEFT A FEW DAYS BEFORE! HE'S JUST GOT TO BE HERE!

YES, MISS FISCHEL, WE'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU! JUST SIGN THIS REGISTER, PLEASE!



WHAT'S GOING ON OUT THERE? THOSE MEN SEEM TERRIBLY EXCITED!



OH, THAT! NOTHING TO WORRY YOUR PRETTY HEAD ABOUT, MISS! SOME GAMBLER KILLED JOE STARR LAST WEEK, AND THE BOYS ARE ALL EXCITED BECAUSE JUST A WHILE AGO THE JURY BROUGHT IN A VERDICT OF GUILTY! AND HE'S GOIN' TO BE HUNG! IF YOU ASK ME, HE GOT A RAW DEAL! MORE'N HALF THE JURY WAS ON STARR'S PAY ROLL AT ONE TIME OR ANOTHER! THE POOR GUY'S NAME IS HOLLIDAY!



WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY WHO IT WAS IN THE FIRST PLACE! PUT MY LUGGAGE IN MY ROOM AND IN CASE I DON'T COME BACK, PLEASE SEND IT TO MY HOME! YOU'LL BE PAID WELL FOR YOUR TROUBLE!

B-BUT MISS FISCHEL!

JUST LIKE A WOMAN—CAN'T MAKE UP THEIR MINDS EVER! THEY DON'T KNOW IF THEY'RE COMING OR GOING!



DO YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU ARE TO DO, NOW? REMEMBER, SET THAT HAY WAGON ON FIRE IN EXACTLY 15 MINUTES, ON THE OTHER END OF MAIN STREET, AND HAVE TWO OF YOUR FASTEST HORSES SADDLED AND READY TO GO! THERE'S \$100 IN GOLD IN IT FOR YOU—YOU WON'T FAIL ME, WILL YOU?

FOR \$100, I'D BURN THE TOWN DOWN, MISS! AND IF I DIDN'T NEED THE MONEY, I'D DO IT FOR NOTHING! I GUESS I'M JUST A FOOL FOR TWO YOUNG PEOPLE IN LOVE! BURNING A HAY WAGON WON'T GET YOUR FIANCE OUT, BUT IF YOU WANT ME TO DO IT, I WILL!



REMEMBER TO KEEP IT OILED AND CLEANED, MISS! A GUN IS MAN'S BEST FRIEND IN THESE PARTS, AND I GUESS IT'S A WOMAN'S TOO, EH, MISS?

I'LL SHOW SAM I CAN BE A GOOD WIFE TO HIM, NO MATTER WHAT KIND OF LIFE HE LEADS!

YOU SAID SOMETHING? OH, YES, YOU SAID TO KEEP THE GUN CLEAN! I WILL, I'LL BATHE IT EVERY DAY! THANK YOU!

IF EVERYTHING WORKS OUT, AND IT MUST, I'LL BE IN THIS JUST AS BAD AS SAM, SO HE WON'T BE ABLE TO SEND ME BACK HOME! HE'LL HAVE TO MARRY ME!



SURE, YOU CAN SEE HOLLIDAY! GO RIGHT IN, MISS! SAY—THERE SEEMS TO BE QUITE A FIRE! I RECKON THE WHOLE TOWN WILL GO OVER TO WATCH IT! I'D SURE LIKE TO GO MYSELF!

THANK YOU KINDLY, SIR!

EVERYTHING IS WORKING JUST RIGHT SO FAR! IF ONLY THERE AREN'T TOO MANY INSIDE... IF, IF!

COME ON, HANK, LET'S GET SOME PAILS AND HELP PUT OUT THE FIRE! IT LOOKS LIKE THE FEED YARD FROM HERE!

EITHER THAT OR THE ROSTAN RANCH! YAHOO, JED, WE AIN'T HAD A GOOD FIRE IN A LONG TIME!



KATE, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? I THOUGHT I MADE IT ALL CLEAR TO YOU IN THE NOTE I LEFT THAT WE WERE WASHED UP—I'M NO GOOD FOR YOU AND I NEVER WILL BE!

SAM, DARLING! YOU CAN TELL ME LATER. THERE'S NO TIME NOW! I'VE COME TO HELP YOU ESCAPE! PUT YOUR ARMS THROUGH THE BARS AND AROUND ME! I'VE A GUN IN MY PARASOL—TAKE IT! AND I'VE GOT HORSES WAITING OUTSIDE!

OBEY THE LAW



STAND RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE, SLIM! MOVE HAND OR FOOT, OR LET ONE PEEP OUT OF YOU, AND I SHOOT! KATE, GET HIS KEYS AN' GUN, BUT DON'T GET BETWEEN US!

DON'T BE CRAZY, DOC! EVEN IF YOU DO GET OUT OF HERE, YOU DON'T STAND A CHANCE OF GETTIN' OUT OF TOWN! THAT'S A NICE LITTLE LADY WITH YOU—YOU'RE ONLY GETTING HER INTO A HEAP OF TROUBLE!



RAISE YOU FIVE ON THAT, AND I'LL TAKE ONE MORE CARD!

THANK GOODNESS, MOST OF THE TOWN'S STILL AT THE FIRE! WE WON'T BE STOPPED!

THIS TWO HANDED GAME IS NO GOOD! SURE WISH SLIM WOULD HURRY BACK, BUT THAT VISITOR WAS A PRETTY GAL AN' KNOWN' SLIM, HE WON'T BE IN NO HURRY!



MAYBE YOU'D HAVE A BETTER CHANCE OF ESCAPING THE POSSE THAT'S SURE TO FOLLOW IF I WENT ANOTHER WAY, SAM! I COULD THROW THEM OFF YOUR TRAIL!

YOU THINK OF EVERYTHING, DON'T YOU, KATE! I'M BEGINNING TO FIND OUT A LOT OF THINGS ABOUT YOU! NOT ONLY ARE YOU PRETTY, BUT YOU'VE GOT SPUNK AN' BRAINS! BUT DON'T YOU GO WORRYIN' YOUR PRETTY HEAD ABOUT POSSES! THIS IS ROCKY COUNTRY, IT'S ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO PICK UP ANYBODY'S TRAIL!

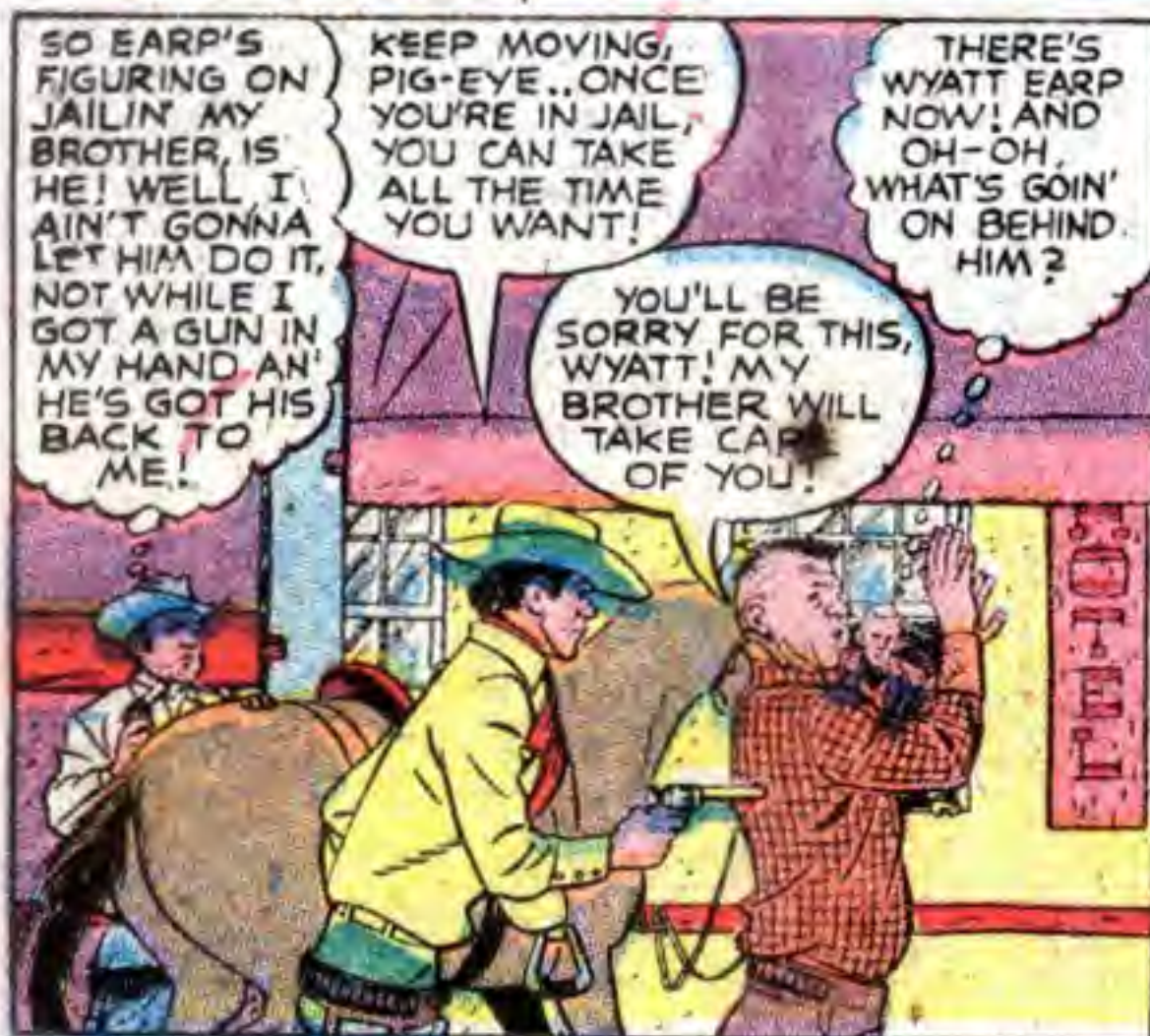
IF ROAMING THE WIDE OPEN SPACES IS THE ONLY KIND OF LIFE THAT WILL MAKE YOU HAPPY, SAM, I'M ALL FOR IT! BUT TRUTHFULLY, I DON'T SEE THE SENSE IN THE WAY YOU'RE GOING! YOU HAD A NARROW ESCAPE THIS TIME BUT YOU CAN'T ALWAYS BE LUCKY!

I KNOW, BUT I CAN'T HELP IT, KATE! THE EXCITEMENT, THE DANGER, WONDERIN' IF YOU'RE GOING TO BE FASTER ON THE DRAW THAN THE OTHER FELLER—I TELL YOU, IT'S IN MY BLOOD, KATE! I COULD NEVER GIVE IT UP—NO MORE THAN I CAN KEEP FROM WANTING TO MARRY YOU, EVEN THOUGH I KNOW I'M NOT BEING FAIR TO YOU! HONEY, I'M A DOOMED MAN! IT'S ONLY A QUESTION OF WHICH WILL GET ME FIRST, A BULLET OR MY T.B.!



DON'T TRY GETTING OUT OF MARRYING ME AGAIN, SAM! HOLLIDAY! I DON'T CARE IF IT'S ONLY FOR A WEEK! AN' DON'T TRY CHANGING THE SUBJECT! IF IT'S THE THRILL AND EXCITEMENT OF PITTING YOUR WIT AN' SKILL AGAINST THE NEXT MAN'S, WHY NOT BECOME A DEPUTY? THAT WAY, YOU WON'T RISK A ROPE AROUND YOUR NECK!

SAY, I NEVER THOUGHT OF THAT! I KNOW JUST THE GUY WHO WOULD GIVE ME A JOB, TOO! A FELLER NAMED WYATT EARP, OUT IN DODGE CITY! IN FACT, HE WAS IN MY OFFICE THE VERY DAY I LEFT DALLAS! HE SAID HE COULD USE A GUY WITH MY TALENT!



SO EARP'S FIGURING ON JAILIN' MY BROTHER, IS HE! WELL, I AIN'T GONNA LET HIM DO IT, NOT WHILE I GOT A GUN IN MY HAND AN' HE'S GOT HIS BACK TO ME!

KEEP MOVING, PIG-EYE! ONCE YOU'RE IN JAIL, YOU CAN TAKE ALL THE TIME YOU WANT!

YOU'LL BE SORRY FOR THIS, WYATT! MY BROTHER WILL TAKE CARE OF YOU!

THERE'S WYATT EARP NOW! AND OH-OH, WHAT'S GOIN' ON BEHIND HIM?



PIG-EYE—GET DOWN! UGH H H!

BANG!

OBEY THE LAW

THANKS, STRANGER, I OWE YOU MY LIFE—WELL, I'LL BE... IF IT AIN'T DOC HOLLIDAY, WHO PULLED MY TOOTH A FEW YEARS BACK! WHY, YOU OLD SON OF A GUN, WHAT BRINGS YOU OUT TO THIS PART OF THE COUNTRY? DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE THE SAME DOC HOLLIDAY WHO'S MADE SUCH A NAME FOR HIMSELF WITH HIS SHOOTIN' IRONS?

NONE OTHER—AND DON'T FORGET ABOUT ME SAVING YOUR LIFE! I'VE COME 400 MILES TO TIE UP WITH YOU—IF YOU'LL HAVE ME, AND I WASN'T LETTIN' ANY DRY-GULCHER COUGH-COUGH-~~COUGH~~ RUIN MY PLANS IF I COULD HELP IT! COUGH-COUGH—

DID YA HEAR THAT, BOYS? THAT'S DOC HOLLIDAY WHO SHOT JAKE! NO WONDER JAKE GOT IT RIGHT BETWEEN THE EYES!

NOTHING WOULD SUIT ME BETTER THAN TO HAVE YOU PUT IN WITH ME, BUT I'M LEAVIN' THIS TOWN, DOC! I'VE JUST BEEN APPOINTED DEPUTY U.S. MARSHAL OF TOMBSTONE, ARIZONA! I'M TAKING MY BROTHERS ALONG AS DEPUTIES! IF YOU CAN SEE YOUR WAY CLEAR TO COME WITH US, I'D BE MIGHTY PLEASED! I'VE ALWAYS GOT ROOM FOR A FAST MAN WITH A GUN! ARIZONA IS DRY COUNTRY, YOU KNOW—IT WOULD BE GOOD FOR THAT COUGH OF YOURS!

I'LL ASK KATE—THAT'S MY WIFE! IF IT'S ALL RIGHT WITH HER, I'LL GO ALONG WITH YOU, WYATT! I HEAR THERE'S PLENTY OF HOT POKER GAMES GOING ON IN ARIZONA!

THEM NEW DEPUTIES, EARP AND HOLLIDAY, SURE HAVE MADE OVER THIS TOWN! THERE AIN'T A GUY LEFT WHO'S WILLIN' TO STAND UP TO THEIR GUNS, EXCEPT MAYBE THE CLANTONS—AND EVEN THEM CUT-THROATS AIN'T DOIN' MUCH SHOOTIN' OFF, EXCEPT WITH THEIR MOUTHS!

I'VE BEEN LOOKIN' FOR YOU, DOC! C'MON OUTSIDE! YOU AND ME IS GONNA SHOOT IT OUT!

HOW MANY CARDS?

I'LL TAKE TWO!

WHAT'S A MATTER, DOC, ARE YA HARD OF HEARIN' ALL OF A SUDDEN, OR ARE YA PLAIN YELLOW? ON SECOND THOUGHT, DON'T BOTHER GETTIN' OFF YOUR CHAIR! KELLY WON'T MIND MY SPILLIN' YOUR BLOOD ON HIS FLOOR—IT'S ONLY WATER, ANYWAY!

FULL HOUSE—I GUESS IT'S MY POT! HOLD UP ON THE NEXT HAND, WILL YOU, GENTS?

BEATS ME!

YOU SAID IT, AND I LIKE THE TOWN THIS WAY! OH, OH, HERE COMES CHARLIE STORM WITH A LOAD ON! HE'S A TROUBLE-MAKER WHEN HE'S DRUNK! DOC'S HERE, AN' CHARLIE'S SORE AT HIM, EVER SINCE DOC BEAT HIM AT POKER!

DOC, I SUPPOSE YOU KNOW TOMBSTONE AIN'T BIG ENOUGH TO HOLD ONE MORE SALOON! WELL, I'VE BEEN HAVING SOME TROUBLE WITH THE CLANTON BUNCH! THEY'VE BEEN TRYIN' TO INTIMIDATE ME INTO FOLDIN' UP, SO THEY CAN MOVE IN WITH A SALOON OF THEIR OWN! IT'S WORTH, SAY, A THIRD OF MY BUSINESS TO ME, IF SOMEONE WOULD SORT OF KEEP TROUBLE AWAY FROM ME OR HANDLE IT, IF THERE WAS ANY!

SAY NO MORE, KELLY! WE'VE LEFT THE CLANTON BOYS ALONE LONG ENOUGH! IT'S ABOUT TIME WE PUT THE PRESSURE ON 'EM! TROUBLE IS, IT'S BEEN HARD TO GET 'EM OUT OF THEIR HOLE, BUT I THINK I KNOW OF A WAY TO SMOKE 'EM OUT!

PUBLIC NOTICE—AS I'M NOW PART OWNER OF KELLY'S SALOON, I WISH TO ANNOUNCE THAT SHOULD CERTAIN UNDESIREABLE CITIZENS, NAMELY THE CLANTON GANG—SET FOOT IN SAID ESTABLISHMENT, THEY HAD BETTER COME WITH DRAWN GUNS! SIGNED—DOC HOLLIDAY!

WON'T THE CLANTONS HOWL WHEN THEY READ THIS! YOU GOT TO HAND IT TO THAT DOC—HE'S GOT A NERVE MADE OF IRON!

ON SECOND THOUGHT, DEAL ME OUT! I SUPPOSE I'LL HAVE TO DISPOSE OF THIS LOW-LIFE!

OBEDY THE LAW



OBEY THE LAW



OBEDY THE LAW



SEARCH ME IF YOU WANT TO, BUT I TELL YOU, I'M UNARMED! YOU WOULDN'T SHOOT ME IN COLD BLOOD, WOULD YOU?

I OUGHT TO! JUST MAKE SURE THAT WHEN WE MEET AGAIN, YOUR GUN HAS BEEN FIXED, BECAUSE I'M GONNA START FIRING ON SIGHT!

I'VE STOOD JUST ABOUT ALL I'M GOIN' TO FROM THAT DOC HOLLIDAY, OR FROM WYATT EARP FOR THAT MATTER! SADDLE UP, MEN, WE'RE GOIN' INTO TOWN AND MAKE A CLEAN SWEEP OF THE LOT OF 'EM!

YOU'RE EXCITED AND YOU'VE HAD TOO MUCH TO DRINK! YOU'D BETTER GO TO BED - WE'LL GET THEM SOME OTHER TIME WHEN YOU'VE COOLED OFF!

IKE'S NOT DRUNK AND HE'S RIGHT! THIS FEUD HAS BEEN GOIN' ON LONG ENOUGH, AN' IT'S TIME TO PUT AN END TO IT! SCOTTY, YOU GO ON AHEAD AND SPREAD THE WORD THAT WE'LL BE WAITIN' FOR THEM AT THE OK CORRAL TO SETTLE UP! AN' IF THEY DON'T SHOW UP, WE'LL GO IN AN' MASSACRE THE LOT OF 'EM!



I GOT NEWS FOR YOU, DOC! THE CLANTONS ARE OUT TO DO AWAY WITH ALL OF US! AND WE GOT YOU TO THANK FOR THAT! WHAT DID YA EXPECT WHEN YOU TANGLED UP WITH IKE? RIGHT NOW THEY'RE WAITIN' FOR US AT THE OK CORRAL, BUT WORD HAS IT THEY INTEND TO KILL US ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, SO I GUESS WE'RE JUSTIFIED IN GOIN' OUT TO MEET 'EM!

TAKE YOUR SHOTGUN - I'M BRINGING MINE! IT WILL COME IN HANDY IF THEY'RE STANDIN' CLOSE TOGETHER! GIVE ME A MINUTE TO SEE KATE AND I'LL MEET YOU AND YOUR BROTHERS DOWNSTAIRS!



GO BACK! AS SHERIFF OF THIS COUNTY, I COMMAND YOU NOT TO GO ANY FURTHER! I AM HERE TO DISARM BOTH SIDES! I WON'T ALLOW ANY GUNPLAY!



DID YOU MEN HEAR ME? I SAID, GO BACK! I WON'T ALLOW A THING LIKE THIS TO GO ON! WYATT EARP, YOU'LL LOSE YOUR MARSHAL'S BADGE FOR THIS!

SHERIFF, I RECKON YOU'D BETTER GO INDOORS! ANYONE THAT AIN'T ON OUR SIDE, IS IN THE MIDDLE, AND THE MIDDLE AIN'T NO PLACE TO BE WHEN LEAD STARTS FLYING!



YOU FELLOWS WERE JUST BEGGING FOR A DOSE OF LEAD, SO C'MON AN' GET YOUR MEDICINE!

HOW DID YOU LIKE THAT, CLANTON WITH THE FIRST TRY... UGH! WYATT, I'VE BEEN HIT!



WE GOT 'EM ALL, HOLLIDAY - EVERY ONE OF 'EM!

GOOD! BUT DO YOU WANT TO HEAR SOMETHING FUNNY, WYATT? ONLY YESTERDAY, I FOUND OUT MY T.B. WAS CURED... AIN'T THAT A LAUGH! I ALWAYS SAID A BULLET WOULD KILL ME INSTEAD OF THAT COUGH! DO ME A FAVOR - ASK KATE TO SEE THAT I'M BURIED HERE! I WANT TOMBSTONE TO REMEMBER ME TO ITS LAST DAY!

The End

A TRUE WILD WEST STORY

JOE ROCK HE KEPT THE GRAVE-DIGGERS BUSY



JOE ROCK was one of the most hated killers the old West ever knew. He murdered for money, for revenge, out of anger, or, as often as not, for no reason at all. It was the killing of a soldier in Indian Territory, in 1874, that started Joe wandering around the country. As he roamed, he committed murder after murder, slaughtering women and children with as little compunction as most people would have in stepping on an ant.

By the summer of 1875, Rock decided that he had left pursuit sufficiently far behind. He settled down temporarily in Mobeetie, Texas, calling himself Jed Wilson. For about a week the town lived in ignorance of the monster it was harboring. Then, one hot night, Rock took part in a poker game with several townspeople, including Sheriff Harry Siler, the tiny town's only peace officer.

Over beer, the men got to talking and boasting. Rock was the only one who did not say anything. Finally, Siler asked, "How come you ain't talkin', Wilson? You look like you could spin a good yarn, if you had a mind to."

"Mebbe I could, if I had a mind to, but since I ain't, mebbe you'd better just not ask questions," Rock snapped.

"That ain't no way to answer a friendly question, Wilson," the sheriff said coldly.

"If you don't like that way, mebbe you like this way better," Rock shouted.

Before anyone could move, he had pulled a gun and emptied six rounds into Siler.

As the sheriff slipped to the floor, Rock said to the others, "Anyone else wanna ask any questions? If not, let's cut out the yappin', and play some poker!"

From then on, Mobeetie knew what kind of man "Jed Wilson" was. The townsfolk, however, were helpless. Rock was faster on the draw than any man in town, and nobody stood a chance of getting the better of him in a fight. He had the town terrorized. He could, and did, kill as he pleased. He shot one

man for speaking to pretty Laurie Woods, whom Rock considered his girl, although she would have nothing to do with him. He killed another in the saloon for not downing his whiskey fast enough. A man who cleaned him out at cards was a third victim, and a fourth was the owner of the general store, who could not supply Rock's brand of tobacco.

A month of this was as much as the people of Mobeetie could



stand. Then the men held a secret meeting to decide what to do. It was obvious that they could only get rid of "Wilson" by means of a trick. Several suggestions were discarded as impractical.

The plan finally decided upon was risky, but worth trying. It was put into action immediately.

Jack Stevens, who was a cousin of Sheriff Siler's, had come to town the day before. The

townspeople knew him, but Rock, of course, did not. Stevens was willing to do anything to trap Siler's murderer.

The day after the meeting, Stevens waited in the saloon un-



til Rock came in. Pretending not to know who he was, he offered him a drink.

"Thanks, stranger, don't mind if I do," Rock said. Stevens kept the conversation general and waited for Rock to start asking questions, which he did soon enough.

"Reckon on settlin' down here in Mobeetie?" Rock asked after a while.

"I might. And I might not," Stevens answered, carefully.

"Got any plans?" Rock went on.

"I might. I might not want to talk about 'em," Stevens countered.

It was not hard to convince Rock, whose brains were all in his trigger-finger, that Stevens was one of his own kind. So when Stevens suggested they rob the stage together, Rock, completely taken in, agreed. They made their plans, and then Stevens reported to the others.

An hour later three men rode out of town, headed south for Wellington, where a federal garrison was stationed. Colonel Whitehouse, who was in charge, listened to them with interest. Then he asked for a description of the man who called himself Jed Wilson.

"He's sort of medium-sized. He's got brown hair and light eyes and a mustache. And he's got a scar. It's sort of hidden by his mustache, but it runs down his left cheek to the corner of his mouth."

The colonel pulled a picture out of his desk. "Is this the man?" he asked.

"Well, he hasn't no mustache there, but otherwise I'd be pretty willin' to say it's the same guy."

"If you're right," Whitehouse said, "you've found Joe Rock for us, and Uncle Sam will be mighty grateful. But whoever he is, he's in for a surprise tomorrow night."

The stage was due at midnight. It was a moonless night, perfect for a hold-up. At eleven, Rock and Stevens set out for the pass about a mile from town, through which the coach would have to go. They had decided that this was the best place.

On one side, the hill overlooking the road was just about twelve feet high. From here Joe



Rock could easily jump on to the back of one of the horses and stop the coach. A few yards away, Stevens would be waiting, with his guns ready, to keep the passengers covered while Rock robbed them. Stevens had explained that it would be better if Joe was the one to stop the horses since he himself had a bad knee.



The men left their own horses about half a mile away, so that their neighing would not warn



those in the coach. They made their way to the hill, and settled down to wait for the stage. Midnight passed, and Rock began to get nervous. Stevens, however, reassured him. Then they heard the sound of hoofs in the distance. In a few minutes the coach was almost abreast of them.

"Stevens! Ya ready?" Rock whispered.

"I'm ready. Here they come! Jump!"

Stevens ran down the road to

his place. Rock jumped, pulling hard on the reins as he landed. The horses skidded to a stop. Rock turned around, thinking he would see Stevens behind him. Instead, the doors of the coach opened, and six men, holding guns, jumped out. The driver was also armed.

"All right, Rock," the leader shouted. "We've got you now, and if you don't want to come along without a fight, we'll be glad to oblige, you murderin' skunk!"

"Why, that double-crossin' rat," Rock shouted. "So it's a trap, huh?"

He slid out of the saddle as he spoke, but as he moved, his foot caught in the stirrup, and he fell. For a moment he was lost in the darkness. As the soldiers ran up, mistaking each other for the murderer in the darkness and confusion, Rock managed to crawl under the horses' bellies and started to run through the night.

A few feet ahead, a shadow rose up against the blackness.

"You're not goin' anywhere,

Jed Wilson," Stevens said, "except where they been waitin' for you for a long time." He fired as he spoke, hitting Rock in the leg.



The soldiers reached the pair just in time to carry Joe away.

Justice had finally caught up with Joe Rock. He died on the gallows a month later, leaving behind him as vile a reputation as any man ever earned.

THE END



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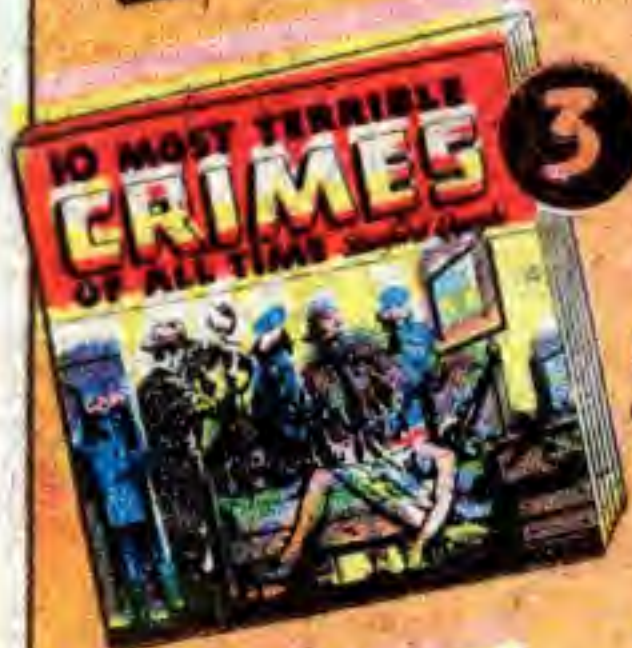
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OBEY THE LAW



Wes Hardin

HIS COLD-BLOODED CAMPAIGN OF MURDER AND TRAIN ROBBERIES TERRORIZED THE WHOLE STATE OF TEXAS!

WES
HARDIN
KILLED
1896



WESLEY HARDIN WAS CUNNING, RESOURCEFUL, AND QUICK ON THE DRAW—HIS WERE QUALITIES THAT COULD HAVE MADE HIM A LEADER OF MEN, IF HE HAD USED THEM IN THE CAUSE OF LAW AND ORDER—INSTEAD, HE BECAME A KILLER—HATED AND HUNTED!

THE CIVIL WAR ENDED IN 1865—SLOWLY THE SHATTERED REMNANTS OF THE CONFEDERATE ARMY MADE THEIR WAY HOME, AND JUST AS SLOWLY DID PEACE AND SECURITY RETURN! DISORDER, BORN OF CONFUSION AND THE LAW OF THE SIX-GUN, WAS ABSOLUTE! BUT THERE WERE SOME PEACE OFFICERS, THOUGH THEY WERE UNDER-MANNED—AND TWO OF THEM RODE DOWN A DUSTY TRAIL IN ROCK COUNTY, TEXAS, IN JUNE, 1866, IN PURSUIT OF A KILLER—

SHERIFF, I THINK WE'RE ENFORCIN' THE MAKIN' A MISTAKE LAW IS NO EASY SPENDING SO MUCH TASK, SAM, BUT TIME TRACKIN' DOWN I SWORE I'D THAT WES HARDIN, GET HIM! IF N EVEN IF HE DID SHOOT, WE DON'T, TWO MEN IN COLD BLOOD! HE'LL GO WE'VE COVERED A HUNDRED ON KILLIN! MILES ALREADY AND THIS IT'S IS HIS KINFOLKS' HOME—IN HIS EVERYONE CLAMS UP BLOOD! THE SECOND WE MAYBE WE MENTION WESLEY FIND OUT SOME HARDIN TO THEM! THING FROM THAT CRITTER UP AHEAD!

HOLD ON, SON! WE'RE STRANGERS HEREABOUTS LOOKIN' FOR A FELLER ABOUT YOUR AGE—WESLEY HARDIN—KNOW HIM?

WE'RE SURE HE'S HIDIN' OUT IN THESE PARTS! HE'S GOT CURLY BLONDE HAIR—TALKS SMART-ALECKY, GOT A MEAN TEMPER!

WHO'S LOOKIN' FER HIM, AND WHY?

I'M SHERIFF MOTLEY, AND THIS IS MY DEPUTY—THERE'S A COUPLE OF FOLKS BACK WHERE WE COME FROM, WANTS TO TALK TO THAT FELLER MIGHTY BADI HE KILLED TWO MEN AND LIT OUT! YOU COULD DO US A FAVOR BY HELPIN' US!

SURE, SHERIFF! I'LL HELP YOU—IN FACT, YOU CAME TO THE ONLY ONE IN THIS COUNTY THAT WOULD! EVERYONE AROUND HERE'S HIDING HIM, BUT NOT ME! HE TRIED TO STEAL MY HOSS AND SWORE TO GET ME WHEN I CAUGHT HIM AT IT! THAT'S WHY I'M CARRYING THIS RIFLE!



OBEDY THE LAW



YOU SEE THEM HILLS UP AHEAD? JUST FOLLOW THEM TILL YOU COME TO A BLIND CANYON! 'BOUT A MILE FURTHER, THERE'S A SMALL PASS-THAT'S WHERE YOU'LL GRAB HIM! HE PASSES THROUGH THERE 'BOUT SUNDOWN EVERY DAY ON HIS WAY TO HIS COUSINS! THEM NO-COUNT CLEMENTS - DON'T SAY I TOLD YOU, OR IT'LL MEAN MY NECK!

DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT! WE KNOW HOW TO KEEP A CONFIDENCE! MUCH OBLIGED, SON! YOU GOT THE MAKIN'S OF A GOOD CITIZEN! THANKS AGAIN!



IMAGINE THEM DUMB-CLUCK LAW-MEN NOT EVEN KNOWING THEY WERE TALKING TO ME - WESLEY HARDIN! I WAS SMART TO DYE MY HAIR LIKE COUSIN GYP TOLD ME! NOW IF A SUDDEN AVALANCHE WAS ABOUT TO START IN THAT CANYON, IT MIGHT BURY THEM POOR, LOST LAWMEN, AND NO ONE'D BE THE WISER! OF COURSE, A 30.30 BETWEEN THE EYES WOULD MAKE THEM REST THAT MUCH EASIER!



HERE THEY COME NOW - ALL DRESSED FOR MY FUNERAL, BUT THE ONLY DYIN' I'M DOING, IS TO SEE THEM COME INTO MY SIGHTS, WITH THEIR GUNS HOLSTERED!



IT'S A TRAP, SAM! WE'VE BEEN ... OH-HH!!

IT'S A SHAME TO KILL GOOD HORSE-FLESH, BUT I AIN'T TAKING ANY CHANCES ON WORD OF THIS GETTING OUT! ANYONE ELSE WHO COMES AFTER ME GETS THE SAME TREATMENT - A QUICK GRAVE!

...URGH!



THAT WASN'T HARD TO DO! ONE GOOD-SIZED BOULDER STARTS AN AVALANCHE IN THIS PASS THAT'D COVER UP A WHOLE POSSE! I'LL REMEMBER THAT FOR THE FUTURE! IF I'M GOING TO BE AN OUTLAW, THEN I'M GOING TO BE A DARN GOOD ONE - BETTER WITH MY IRONS THAN ANYONE THE LAW CAN SEND AFTER ME!



SAY BEN, AIN'T THAT THE HARDIN BOY DOIN' ALL THAT SHOOTIN' DOWN THERE? HE DON'T NEVER MISS A DAY'S PRACTICE!

YEH-THERE'S SOMETHING **WRONG** ABOUT THAT CRITTER! ALWAYS TALKING ABOUT KILLING! BUT HE'S A GOOD SHOT-HE KIN SHOOT THE EYE OUT OF A SPARROW AT 30 YARDS! I WOULDN'T TURN MY BACK ON HIM! HE'S GOT THE REAL KILLER INSTINCT-IT'S IN HIS EYES! COLD AS ICE!



I UNDERSTAND HE'S FIXIN' TO ENTER THAT BONY STALLION OF HIS'N IN THE BIG RACE NEXT WEEK! THAT NAG DON'T STAND A CHANCE AGAINST THEM OTHER HORSES!

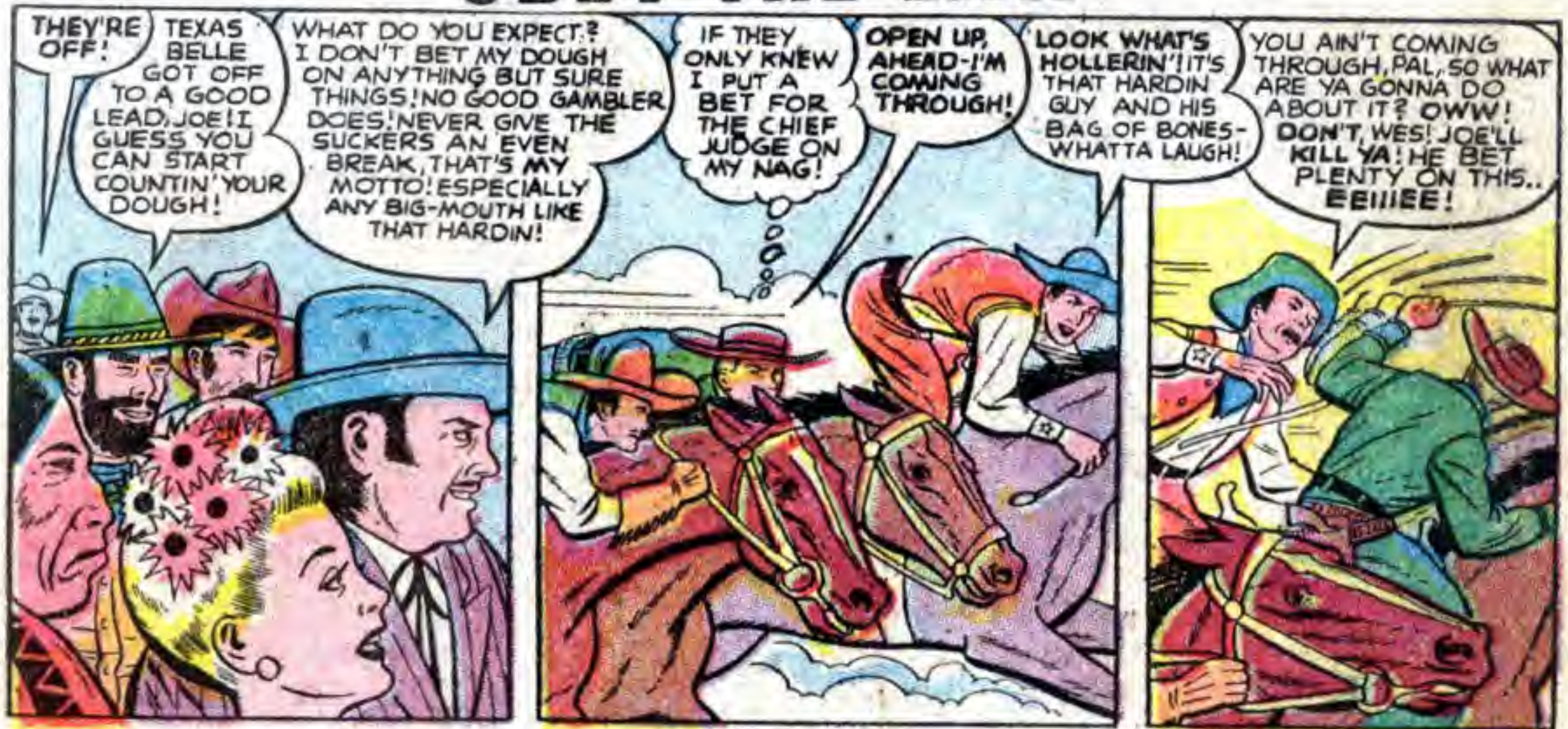
HAW-HAW! THAT'S A GOOD ONE - AN' ESPECIALLY SINCE JOE POINTER'S GONE OUT OF HIS WAY TO LET EVERYONE KNOW HE'S BACKIN' HIS TEXAS BELLE TO THE HILT! JOE DOESN'T TAKE KINDLY TO LOSIN' AND THAT HOSS OF HIS'N CAN SHOW HER TAIL TO ANY HORSE IN THE STATE!



SURE, I'LL COVER YOUR BET, SONNY BOY-HAW-HAW! WHY NOT? IF YOU WANT TO LOSE YOUR MONEY, IT'S OKAY BY ME! **HAW-HAW!** ONLY I HOPE YOU'RE GONNA TAKE OFF THAT HARDWARE - IT'S HEAVY ENOUGH TO BREAK THE BACK OF YOUR BONY NAG!

I'LL LET HIM DO THE TALKING NOW-AFTER THE RACE I'LL MAKE HIM EAT DIRT-OR LEAD! I'LL SHOW 'EM!

OBEDY THE LAW



OBEDY THE LAW

THAT WAS A RIGHT NICE ROPIN', EH, BILL? PITY WE CAN'T TRY HIM HERE IN TOWN! PEOPLE SURE WOULD LIKE TO SEE HIM GETTIN' WHAT HE DESERVES!

I'M JUST AS GLAD WE'RE GETTIN' RID OF HIM, TOM - HE'S A TOUGH HOMBRE, THAT ONE, SO YOU AND ED KEEP HIM CUFFED TILL YOU REACH PAWNEE - AND DON'T TAKE ANY CHANCES! HE'D MURDER YOU IN YOUR SLEEP!

I'M ALL BUSHED, ED, HOW ABOUT STOPPING HERE FOR THE NIGHT AN' GETTIN' SOME SLEEP? IF WE TIE HARDIN TO A TREE, WE CAN BOTH HIT THE SACK!

GO RIGHT TO IT! IT'LL BE A LONG SLEEP FOR YOU JOKERS! THE SAPS WEREN'T EVEN SMART ENOUGH TO SEARCH ME THIS MORNIN'! THAT KNIFE COUSIN GYP - SMUGGLED IN TOME IS GOING TO COME IN HANDY MIGHTY SOON!



KEEP YOUR GUN HANDY! THERE'S A LOOK IN HARDIN'S EYE THAT I DON'T LIKE!

RELAX, TOM! HE CAN'T MOVE AN INCH! THE WAY I BOUND HIM, HE'S LUCKY TO BE ABLE TO CLOSE HIS EYE-LIDS! C'MON, LET'S GET SOME SHUT-EYE!

AFTER TONIGHT, I'LL ALWAYS SLIP A SMALL KNIFE INTO MY BOOTS! NOW I'M GONNA GET RID OF THE CHAPERONS WITH THEIR OWN GUNS - AND I AIN'T STOPPIN' TO BURY 'EM!



OKAY, PALS - HERE'S YOURS! SO YOU HAD ME TIED UP GOOD, HUH? WELL, IT'LL TAKE SMARTER GUYS THAN YOU TO KEEP WES HARDIN DOWN!

IN KANSAS, WHERE WESLEY HARDIN FLED TO AVOID RECAPTURE, HE WAS SOON ANKLE-DEEP IN BLOOD, BUT AS USUAL, SOMEONE ELSE'S!

THERE'S NOTHIN' YOU DON'T KNOW ABOUT SLINGIN' LEAD, HARDIN! THE WAY YOU TOOK IN THEM TWO SWINDLERS BEFORE THEY COULD EVEN GET THEIR MUZZLES CLEAR - THAT'S SMART! COME OVER HERE, I WANNA TALK TO YOU PRIVATE!

BE RIGHT WITH YA, STRANGER!

THE NAME'S NEVENS - JOHN NEVENS! I'VE GOT A HERD THAT'S BEING DRIVEN TO ABILENE, AND I NEED A GUN-SLINGER LIKE YOU TO INSURE DELIVERY! I RESPECT YOUR SKILL AND SO WILL THE OTHER OUTFITS ALONG THE WAY! IF THEY DON'T - WELL, THAT'S WHAT YOU'LL BE PAID FOR - PROTECTION! WHAT DO YOU SAY?

I SAY YOU'RE ON! BUT IT'LL COST YA PLENTY! SAY FIVE HUNDRED NOW AND YOU DOUBLE IT WHEN YOU GET THE HERD THROUGH! JUST SEE THAT I'VE GOT ENOUGH LEAD - THAT'S ALL!

BOSS, THAT CIRCLE H OUTFIT THAT'S BEEN FOLLOWIN' US CUT OUT ABOUT A HUNDRED HEAD FROM THE TAIL END OF THE HERD! IT MUST HAVE HAPPENED DURING THE NIGHT! ME AND LEFTY SAW SMOKE - THEY'RE BURNING OVER OUR BRAND RIGHT NOW!

YUH HEAR THAT, HARDIN? THIS IS YOUR SHOW FROM NOW ON! SHALL I GET SOME MORE OF THE BOYS TOGETHER?

NAW - I'LL HANDLE THIS MYSELF!



OBEDY THE LAW

THAT'S THE CIRCLE H OUTFIT STARTIN' TO COME THROUGH THE CANYON NOW, WES, AND THE HERD MUST BE RIGHT BEHIND! BUT I SURE WISH YOU'D LET SOME OF THE BOYS GET IN ON THIS! THEM GUYS ARE NO DUDES- THEY'RE HIRED FOR HOW MUCH THEY CAN SWIPE- NOT HOW WELL THEY CAN SEW!



YOU JUST DO AS YOU'RE TOLD, JOE! I'M RUNNIN' THIS SHOW! EASY NOW, HERE THEY COME!

HOLD UP THERE, YOU TWO! GET DOWN OFF YOUR HORSES AND LIE FACE DOWN ON THE GROUND, OR I'LL BLOW YOU OUT OF YOUR SADDLES!



I WOULDN'T PULL ANY FUNNY STUFF, STRANGER! WE GOT TWELVE MEN FOLLOWIN' RIGHT BEHIND US!



YOU DON'T STAND A CHANCE! THEY'LL..

IF THERE ARE TWELVE GUYS BEHIND YA, EVERY ONE OF 'EM WILL GET JUST WHAT YOU'RE GETTIN'!

I GOTTA HAND IT TO YA, HARDIN! YOU SURE CAN SHOOT! LOOKS LIKE THEY WUZ JUST BLUFFIN' ABOUT NOT BEIN' ALONE!



GO BACK AND TELL NEVENS THE COAST IS CLEAR- I'LL STAY HERE FOR A WHILE, JUST IN CASE ANY MORE OF THEM CIRCLE H HOMBRES SHOW UP!

WITH PLENTY OF CASH IN HIS POCKETS, HARDIN LEFT NEVENS' MOB AND HEADED FOR ABILENE, KANSAS, WHERE BILL HICKOCK HAD GYP HARDIN, WES'S COUSIN, IN JAIL!

THEY TELL ME HICKOCK IS DYIN' TO PUT COUSIN GYP ON THE TRAIN FOR LEAVENWORTH FIRST THING IN THE MORNING! THAT MEANS I'LL HAVE TO GET HIM OUT TONIGHT- BUT I'LL NEED ANOTHER HORSE!



I'D LIKE TO BUY THE FASTEST HORSE YOU GOT, MISTER!



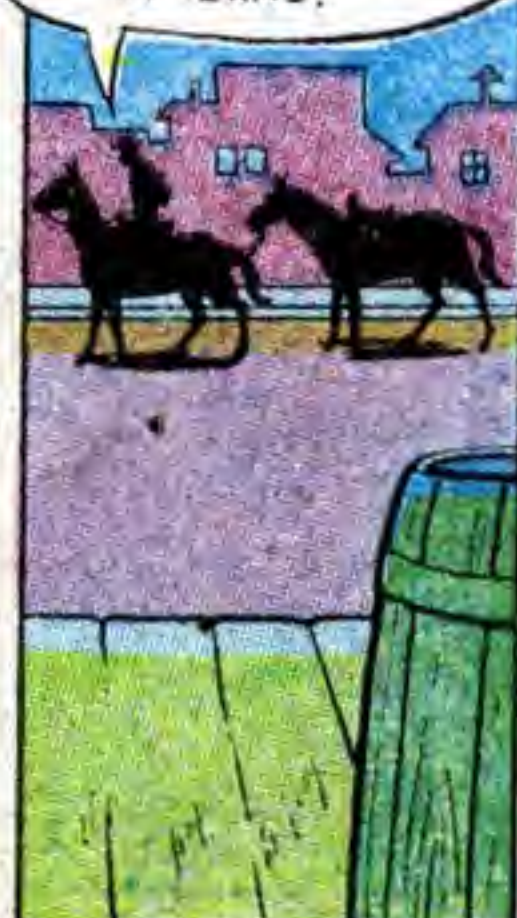
CAN'T IT WAIT TILL MORNING? YAWN- GETTIN' A MAN UP IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT... OH, WELL, COME ON IN AND SEE WHAT I GOT!

THIS ONE'S THE FASTEST LITTLE OLD PONY IN ALL KANSAS! JUST WHAT- UHHH...



THAT'S THE SECOND TIME THIS KNIFE CAME IN HANDY... A SHOT WOULD WAKE UP THE WHOLE TOWN! WELL, YOU CAN GO BACK TO SLEEP NOW- FOR A LONG, LONG TIME!

GYP WILL SURE BE SURPRISED TO SEE ME- THIS WILL EVEN US UP FOR THE TIME HE SLIPPED ME THAT KNIFE BACK IN TEXAS!



WES! GOOD 'OL WES! YOU'VE COME TO GET ME OUT!



QUIET, GYP! NOW LISSIN- HICKOCK SLEEPS IN THE FRONT ROOM! WHEN I SPRING THE BARS, JUMP OUT, MOUNT FAST, AND FOLLOW ME!

OBEY THE LAW



THEY'RE OUTTA RANGE! NOT A CHANCE OF HITTING THEM! IT'LL TAKE HOURS TO GET A POSSE TOGETHER THIS TIME OF THE NIGHT! THAT'S ONE ON WILD BILL ALL RIGHT!



SO TEXAS IS MORE WIDE OPEN THAN WHEN I LEFT, WES! THAT'S GOOD! WITH YOUR REP, WE OUGHTTA DO ALL RIGHT! AND I KNOW JUST THE MEN WE'LL NEED!

KEEP RIDIN' GYP! I'M BEGINNING TO GET SOME IDEAS, AN THE GOVERNOR AIN'T GOING TO LIKE NARY A ONE OF THEM! WE'RE GOING INTO BUSINESS IN A BIG WAY!



BEFORE WE START- IS EVERYBODY WITH ME ON THIS TRAIN JOB?

YOU BET, WES! I'D JUST LIKE TO GET A LOOK AT THE GOVERNOR'S FACE WHEN HE HEARS ABOUT IT!

THAT'S THE SLICKEST PLAN I'VE EVER HEARD, HARDIN! YOU'RE PLENTY SMART! AND IN A BIG TOWN LIKE FORT WORTH, THEY'LL NEVER SPOT US!

AT FORT WORTH, TEXAS, A GALA CROWD JOYOUSLY WAITS FOR THE LONG EXPECTED CIRCUS RODEO TO MAKE ITS ENTRY!



SUFFERIN' SNAKES! LOOKIT THE GIANT!

AND THE MIDGETS! THIS'LL BE THE BEST SHOW IN YEARS!

WHEN DO WE SEE THE ANIMALS, DADDY?



I SURE GOTTA HAND IT TO YA, WES.. THIS MOB AT THE STATION'S GONNA MAKE THINGS AWFULLY EASY FOR US!

YOU'RE TELLIN' ME! OKAY, SIGNAL THE GANG! WES HARDIN'S NAME'LL BE KNOWN ALL OVER TEXAS BY SUNDOWN!



HA-HA! NOBODY'D EVER FIGURE ON US PULLIN' A ROBBERY NOW! GET TO THE BAGGAGE CAR WHILE EVERYONE'S GOOD AND EXCITED!

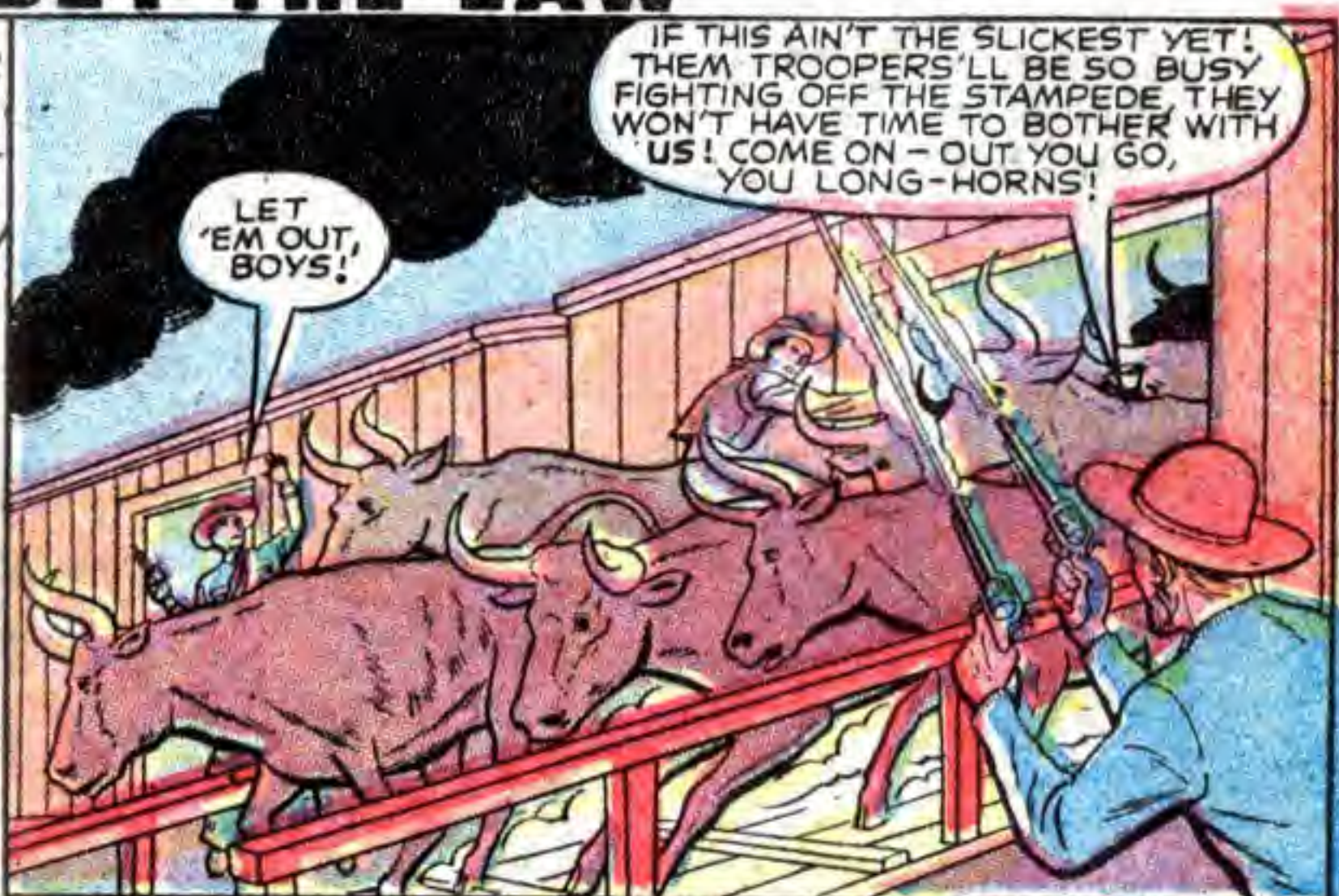
YOU BET, WES! THIS IS GONNA BE A CINCH!



GET THE MAIL SACKS, BOYS! WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME!

GIMME A CHANCE, PLEASE, MISTER... ARGH!

OBEY THE LAW



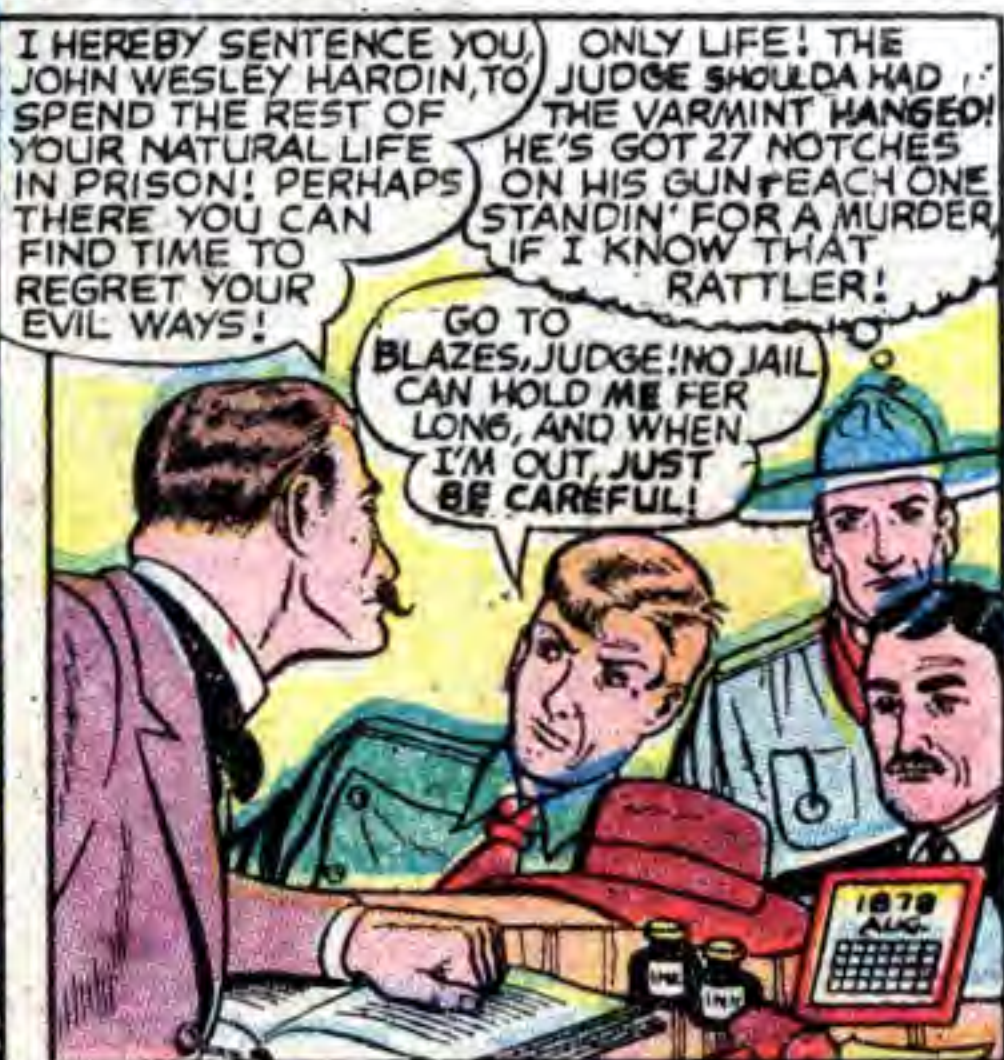
OBEDY THE LAW



IT'S HARDIN, ALL RIGHT, LIEUTENANT, AND HIS COUSIN, GYP, TOO! ALL TIED UP IN ONE PRETTY PACKAGE FOR US!

DON'T REACH, HARDIN! YOU HAVEN'T A CHANCE!

STATE TROOPERS! HOW DID YOU GUYS KNOW WE WERE HERE?



I HEREBY SENTENCE YOU, JOHN WESLEY HARDIN, TO SPEND THE REST OF YOUR NATURAL LIFE IN PRISON! PERHAPS THERE YOU CAN FIND TIME TO REGRET YOUR EVIL WAYS!

ONLY LIFE! THE JUDGE SHOULD HAVE HANGED THE VARMINT! HE'S GOT 27 NOTCHES ON HIS GUN, EACH ONE STANDIN' FOR A MURDER, IF I KNOW THAT RATTLER!

GO TO BLAZES, JUDGE! NO JAIL CAN HOLD ME FER LONG, AND WHEN I'M OUT, JUST BE CAREFUL!



GET WISE TO YOURSELF, HARDIN! YOU'VE TRIED TO ESCAPE SEVEN TIMES IN THE NINE YEARS YOU'VE BEEN HERE, AND IT'S GOTTEN YOU NOTHING BUT A YEAR IN SOLITARY! THIS ATTEMPT WILL GET YOU A MONTH MORE! PLAY IT SMART AND MAYBE YOU CAN GET PAROLED IN TEN YEARS - KEEP TRYING TO ESCAPE AND YOU'LL GO OUT FEET FIRST ONE OF THESE DAYS! THE CHOICE IS YOURS!

YOU CAN GO TO THE DEVIL! I'LL NEVER QUIT TRYIN' - AND ONE OF THESE DAYS I'LL GET YOU WITH MY BARE HANDS! THE JAIL AIN'T MADE THAT CAN HOLD WESLEY HARDIN!



TWELVE YEARS IN STIR - AND ALMOST TWO YEARS OF IT IN SOLITARY! LIFE'S PASSIN' ME BY! I'M 35 NOW - TWELVE YEARS WITHOUT SEEING A WOMAN - TWELVE YEARS SINCE I SAT ON A HORSE OR FELT MY 45 SPITTIN' LEAD! MAYBE THAT CRUMB OF A WARDEN WAS RIGHT! YOU CAN GET FURTHER WITH HONEY THAN VINEGAR! ALL RIGHT, I'LL BE THEIR GOOD BOY FROM NOW ON - I'LL GET THAT PAROLE AND THEN I'LL MAKE UP FOR ALL THE LOST YEARS - SOMEONE'S GOT TO PAY FOR EM!



KANSAS, FEB 7, 1893 - JOHN WESLEY HARDIN, NOTORIOUS GUNMAN OF THE 1870'S SERVING A LIFE SENTENCE IN LEAVENWORTH PENITENTIARY, WAS TODAY RELEASED ON PAROLE AND IMMEDIATELY LEFT FOR TEXAS! KNOWN WIDELY FOR THE REIGN OF TERROR HIS GANG CREATED, HARDIN IS REPUTED TO HAVE KILLED 27 MEN IN HIS GUN BATTLES!

WELL, WHAT DO YA KNOW! WES HARDIN IS OUTTA JAIL AT LAST! YOU REMEMBER HIM, DON'T YA, WILL? HE HELD UP YOUR STAGE ONCE!

HE ALMOST KILLED ME, TOO! I BET HE'LL HEAD DOWN AROUND EL PASO WAY - I UNDERSTAND THAT GALS USED TO BE SWEET ON LIVES THERE NOW!



WESLEY, DARLING! OH HOW GOOD IT IS TO SEE YOU AGAIN! I'VE BEEN ON PINS AND NEEDLES SINCE I GOT YOUR LETTER! WHAT'S IN THE PACKAGE?

JUST A TOKEN OF MY AFFECTION, BUT THAT CAN WAIT! RIGHT NOW, I'M ONLY INTERESTED IN YOU!



I GOTCHA, BIG BOY! JUST LIKE THE OLD DAYS! YOU ALWAYS WERE AWFUL SWEET ON ME! NOT LIKE THE CHEAP MISERS I'VE KNOWN SINCE THEN!

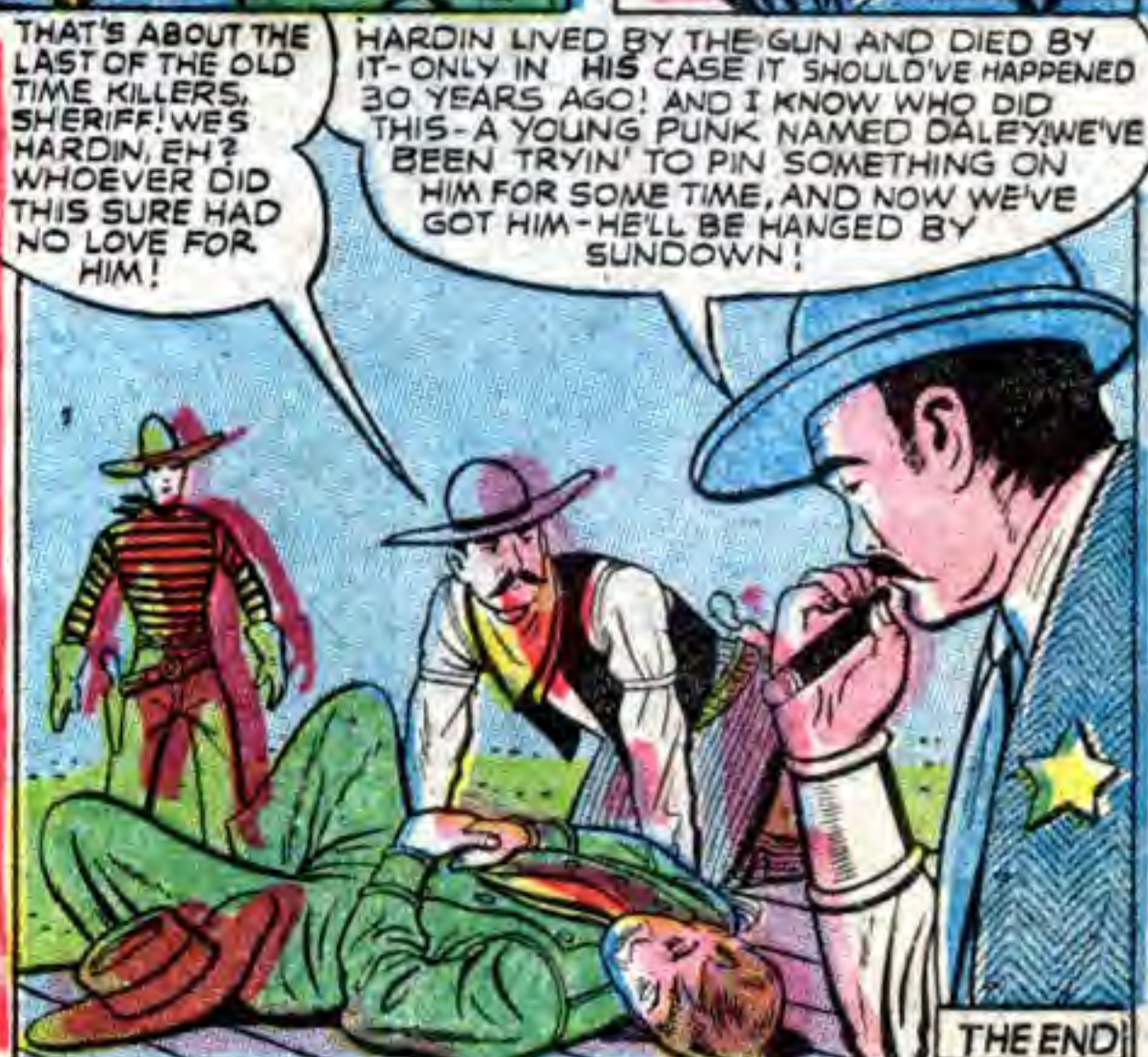
NEVER MIND THEM, SAL, I'M BACK AND IT'S GONNA BE LIKE OLD TIMES FROM NOW ON! I'VE GOT A FEW PLANS, AND ALL OF THEM INCLUDE SOME BIG DOUGH!



WHAT'S THE MATTER, HONEY? YOU'VE BEEN LOOKIN' WORRIED ALL EVENING!

I AM - IN A WAY... THERE'S A SMALL-TIMER I USED TO BE - WELL... FRIENDLY WITH - HE'S AWFULLY JEALOUS! HE WARNED ME TODAY THAT IF IT'S THE LAST THING HE DOES, HE'LL GET YOU! HE KNOWS YOU'RE AN EX-CONVICT!

OBEDY THE LAW



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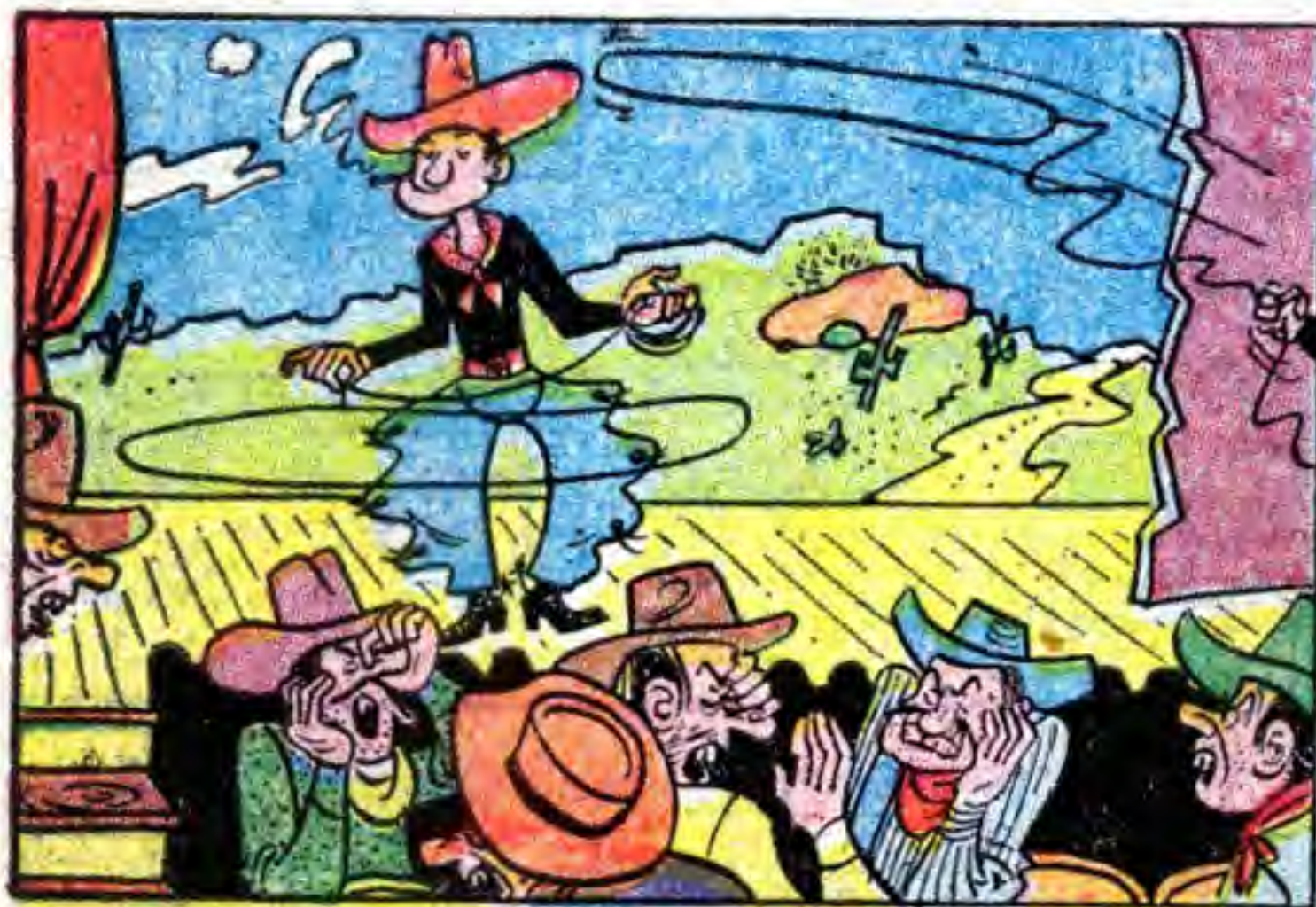
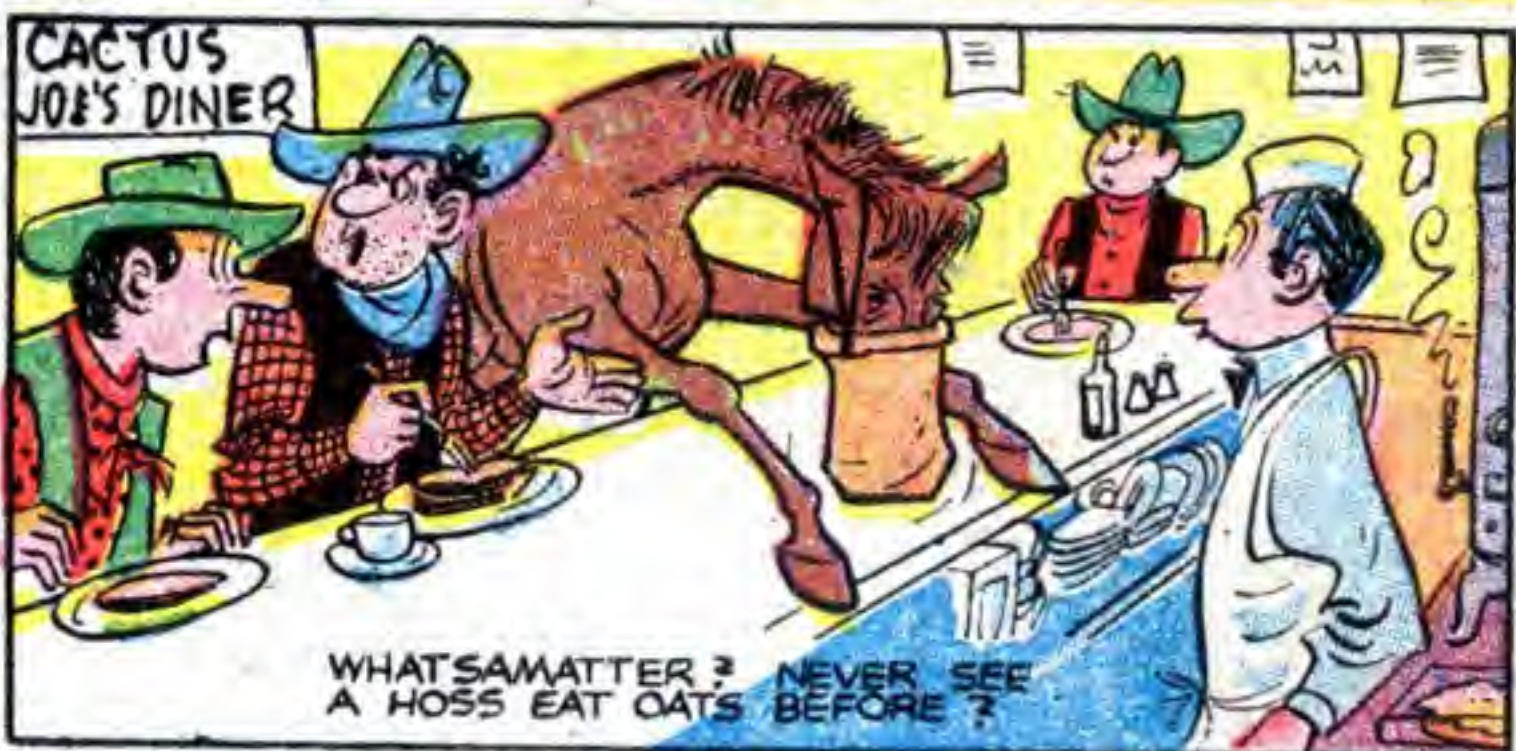
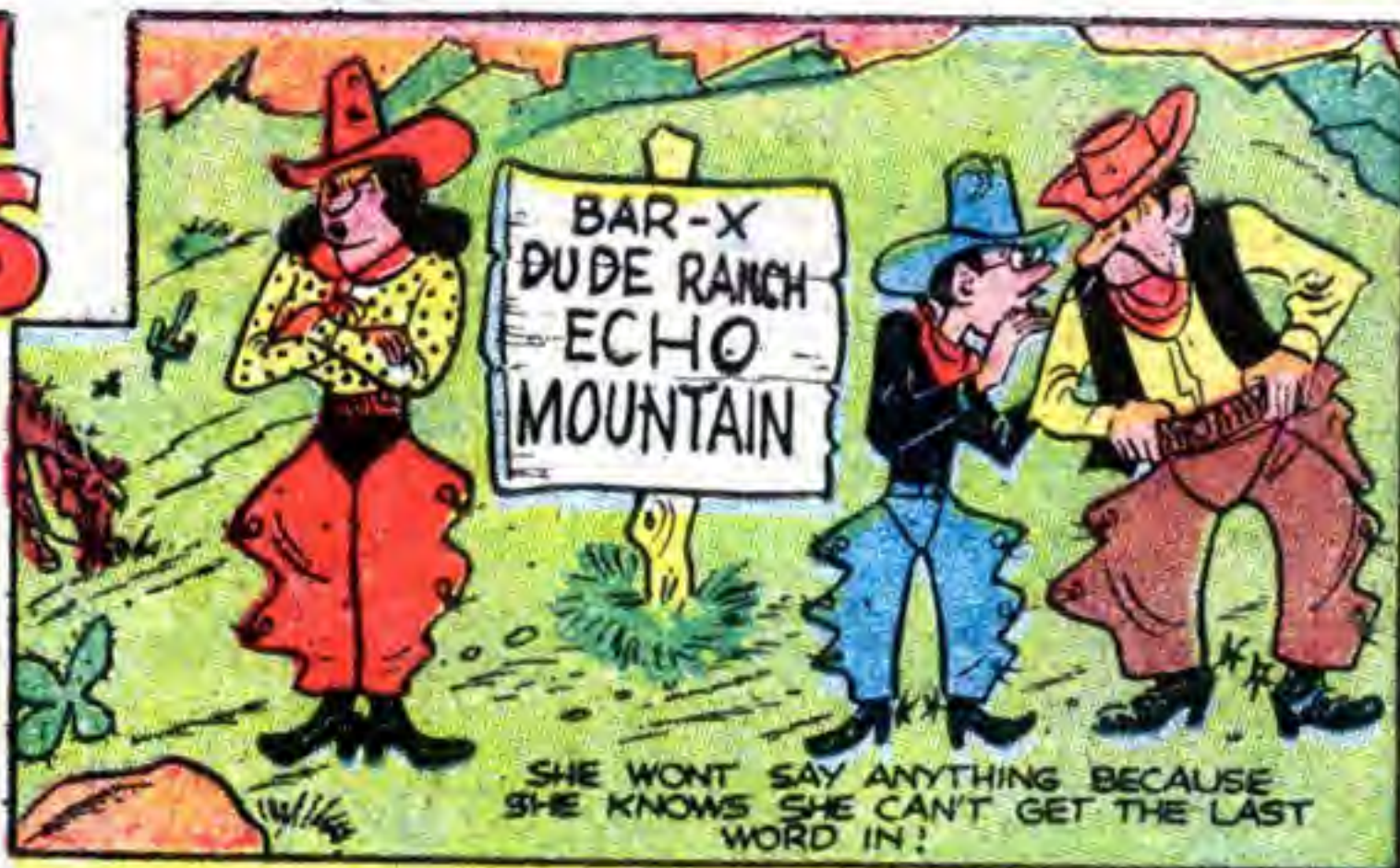
I wish to become a member of The **RAISED EAGLE CLUB**. Please rush me my **MEMBERSHIP CARD**, The Confidential List and a **FREE 24 kt. Gold plated U. S. Eagle Badge**. Also send me: (Check one)

- ☐ Ribbon No. _____ I enclose 25¢
☐ Ribbon No. _____ **PLUS NINE** other different ribbons. I enclose \$1.

(Please Print Clearly)

Name.....
Address.....
City..... State.....
Age.....

WESTERN WACKIES



OBEY THE LAW

SURE AS SHOOTIN'

by
CLAUDE
MOORE



THE SYDNEY DUCKS (AUSTRALIAN CONVICT IMMIGRANTS TO SAN FRANCISCO) WERE NOTORIOUS FOR SETTING FIRE TO BUILDINGS AND THEN, DURING THE EXCITEMENT, LOOTING THE STORES AND HOMES -

MAY 4, 1850 - THEY STARTED A FIRE THAT DESTROYED 3 CITY BLOCKS

JUNE 14, 1850 - AN ENTIRE WATERFRONT DISTRICT BURNED TO THE GROUND

SEPT. 17, 1850 - ANOTHER FIRE DESTROYED 125 BUILDINGS!

LAW ENFORCEMENT COULDN'T COPE WITH THE DUCKS, SO ENRAGED CITIZENS FORMED THE VIGILANTES

UNRELATED TWINS!



A MAN
NAMED
BERDUE

HAD THE SAME
COLOR HAIR-
EYES - SCAR ON
CHEEK - STIFF
FORE FINGER-
LONG HAIR AND
BEARD - SAME
ENGLISH ACCENT
AS A MURDERER
NAMED STUART,
AND WOULD HAVE
HANGED FOR STUART'S
CRIMES IF HIS DOUBLE
HAD NOT BEEN CAUGHT
IN A ROBBERY - 2 DAYS
BEFORE THE HANGING!



TEX
RANKIN,
TEXAS BADMAN
KILLED 40 PEOPLE!

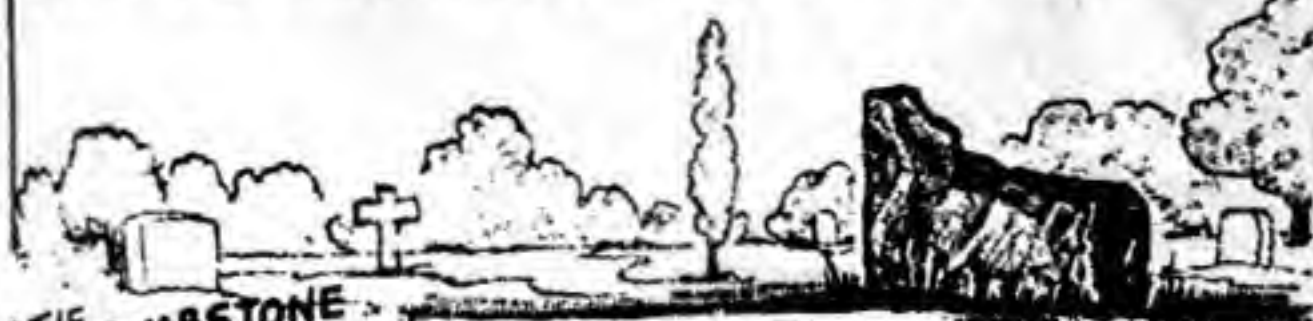
ON OCT. 5, 1878 HE WAS FOUND GUILTY OF MURDER AND SENT TO TEXAS PENITENTIARY AND IN HIS SPARE TIME STUDIED LAW - HE WAS RELEASED AFTER SERVING 15 YEARS AND WENT INTO BUSINESS AS A LAWYER, BUT HIS LOVE FOR A FIGHT AND HIS BELLIGERENT ATTITUDE SOON COST HIM HIS LIFE IN AN ARGUMENT

THE "ROAD-AGENT'S SPIN"

WAS FIRST USED BY "CURLY BILL" GRAHAM WHEN HE WAS ORDERED TO SURRENDER HIS GUN TO SHERIFF WHITE OF Tombstone, ARIZ. HE HELD THE GUN OUT WITH THE BUTT END TOWARD THE SHERIFF AND WHEN WHITE REACHED FOR IT, GRAHAM SPUN THE GUN ON HIS TRIGGER FINGER AND SHOT AND KILLED THE SHERIFF

KID CURRY LOGAN

COULD PLACE
A POKER CHIP
ON THE WRIST
OF HIS GUN HAND
AT SHOULDER LEVEL -
TURN HIS WRIST
DELIBERATELY
TO LET THE CHIP DROP
- REACH FOR HIS GUN -
DRAW AND FIRE
THREE SHOTS
BEFORE THE CHIP
COULD HIT THE FLOOR!



THE TOMBSTONE
ON THE GRAVE OF JESSE JAMES

IN Kearney, Missouri - HAS BEEN CHIPPED DOWN TO A MERE STUMP BY SOUVENIR HUNTERS!

C.H. MOORE

AMAZING...
BUT TRUE!!

YOU CAN GET THESE

HAND
COLORED

COIN HOLDER

ZIPPER
BILLFOLDS

PACKED WITH EXPENSIVE
FEATURES

ONLY
\$1.98

PLUS
FEDERAL
TAX

Size approx. 3 1/2" x 5 1/2".
Actual size 3 1/8" x 5 1/8" when opened.
Leathercraft wallets
come to you from
the heart of the
leather goods in-
dustry, making this
low price possible.



Hand colored scene extends the full
length of the wallet!



It's a fact! You get this beautiful coin
holder, feature-packed wallet by mail
for only 1.98! Each wallet is saddle
finished, gorgeously embossed and
hand colored with colors that won't
rub off! Each has a quality, smooth-
sliding zipper that completely seals the
wallet! And here are the big EXTRAS
—a patented "change maker" coin
holder plus the most mysterious secret
pocket ever made—to hide your
precious papers and money from pry-
ing eyes.

JUST LOOK
..AT THESE
FEATURES!!

- PATENTED COIN HOLDER ● PATENTED SECRET POCKET!
- Smooth-sliding zipper ● Beautifully hand-colored scenes.
- Identification card ● Roomy currency compartment
- Built-in change purse ● 8 picture and pass windows.

INCLUDING
A PATENTED
SECRET
POCKET

AT NO EXTRA
COST



SEND NO
MONEY
ORDER NOW!

SECRET POCKET KNOWN ONLY TO YOU! KEEPS PRECIOUS
PAPERS AND MONEY SAFE FROM PRYING EYES!

The LEATHERCRAFT CO.
Dept. 50
386 Main Ave.,
Clifton, N. J.

My Billfold Selection is _____

(Show Me & I will)

If ordering more than one, state how many and style numbers _____

MY NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

ZONE NO. _____ STATE _____

GENTLEMEN:
By return mail, rush me my hand-colored, coin holder zipper billfold containing
the patented SECRET POCKET! Upon arrival, I will pay the postman 1.98 plus
federal tax, postage and C.O.D. charges. If I am not fully satisfied, I can return
the billfold within ten days for a full refund.

DESPERADO

4

OCT. 1948

COVER	BIZO*		
SURE AS SHOOTIN'	IFC	CLAUDE MOORE*	1
THE RENO BROTHERS		BOB FUJITANI*	12
SURE AS SHOOTIN'		CLAUDE MOORE*	1
HANK PLUMMER		FRED KIDA	8
BATS IN THE BADLANDS		ROBERT PERRY°	1
"DOC" HOLLIDAY		ED MOORE*	9
JOE ROCK	TEST	TUSKA	3
RODEO RAMPAGE		ROBERT PERRY°	1
WES HARDIN		FRED GUARDINEER*	8
WESTERN WACKIES		?	1
SURE AS SHOOTIN'	IBC	CLAUDE MOORE*	1